This Snare was spread.
By Love and Julia. —

This Snare was spread.
By Love and Julia. —

THE MAN OF NATURE.

Tranſlated from the FRENCH

BY

JAMES BURNE.

VOLUME II.

SOCIETY.

Se tenir en ſûreté dans les hauteurs inacceſſibles des temples bâtis par les ſages, de ces temples d'où vous voyez les orages ſous vos pieds, d'où vous voyez les autres hommes errer & chercher vainement dans leurs courſes vagabondes, le bonheur qui n'eſt qu'où vous êtes.

LUCRECE, Liv. 2.

LONDON:

Printed for T. CADELL, in the Strand.

M.DCC.LXXIII.

BRITISH MUSEUM

THE MAN OF NATURE.

A Bundle of aromatick herbs attracted my fawn; over it was ſuſpended a large net, under which we both paſſed. My fawn, unſuſpicious of danger, began to eat; I examined the meſhes of the net, ſo artificially ſpread over my head, and all around me. I admired the artful arrangement of them, and endeavoured to account for this phenomenon. The fawn in brouſing the graſs, touched a ſtick which ſupported the net, it immediately fell, and

incloſed us both. I did not perceive any thing which could terrify me, but I was a little ſtartled at the noiſe of a bell, which the net rang in falling. I had not indeed any thing to fear. —— On the contrary, what felicity awaited me! I heard the ſound of footſteps approaching.——I looked up.——But how ſhall I attempt to give even a faint idea of the emotions which took inſtant poſſeſſion of my ſoul, at beholding the object which ſtood before me. I had ſeen the ſun ſhine forth in all its luſtre, and this glorious ſight, when it firſt broke upon me, filled me with admiration, reverence, and aſtoniſhment. But it was reſerved for *Julia* to awaken in me thoſe unutterable tranſports which love alone can call forth in its firſt impreſſion on a pure and ſpotleſs heart.

I in-

I inſtantly felt that the divine author of my being had granted at length my ardent prayer, that other ſelf which was ſo neceſſary to the happineſs his bounty intended for me.

I gazed at her beauteous form with mingled wonder and delight: my eyes, taught by the new and rapturous ſenſation with which her preſence had inſpired me, in vain attempted by their artleſs language to expreſs the effect her beauties had upon my ſoul. I claſped my hands together, I fell on my knees.—— Tears of tenderneſs and joy ſtreamed down my cheek.

The power of uttering the few words to which I had accuſtomed myſelf on all great occaſions, was denied me, and I verily believe, that I ſhould have utterly loſt my ſenſes, had not a look of tender

pity from *Julia* a little calmed the tumultuous emotions of my ſoul.

I ſtruggled with all my ſtrength to break through the obſtacle that kept me from her: ſhe looked at me with ſurpriſe;——ſhe turned towards the place from whence ſhe came, and made ſigns;——She ſpoke, and I ſaw that ſhe was held in ſuſpenſe, by a deſire to releaſe me, and a dread of the conſequence;——ſhe retired;——ſhe advanced again;——O! if ſhe had left me, life would that inſtant have fled from me for ever.

An old man, whom I afterwards found to be her father, ran to aſſiſt her: he came to her panting for breath. He looked at me, and he ſaw that I made efforts to get looſe.——He feared for his daughter, and he feared for himſelf.

He

——He embraced her; he ſpoke to her with emotion, and ſent her from him.——I cried aloud, and threw myſelf on the ground before the old man. I held out my hands to him in a ſupplicating manner.——Grief almoſt deprived me of ſpeech.——But exerting all my powers, I cried out in a voice broken with ſighs, "*Let him alone*;" and I knew not to what lengths my deſpair would have carried me, had not the light of my ſoul returned inſtantly.——She brought with her two ſwords, one of which ſhe gave to the old man, and kept the other herſelf, the point of which ſhe let fall careleſly. They both came to the net; ſhe drew a ſmall cord which opened it, and I came out with my fawn; it fled, I remained.——I read in *Julia*'s eyes, that ſhe would be angry if I followed my fawn; I ſaw nothing poſitive in thoſe of her father. He ſeemed to

wiſh, and yet to fear, my ſtay; he threatened me with his ſword if I approached him. I looked at *Julia*, and advanced towards her, with that lively eagerneſs which inſtinct alone inſpires; ſhe, willing to defend herſelf, raiſed the point of her ſword, which at that inſtant ſeemed to her to be very heavy; ſhe wounded me ſlightly in the thigh: at the ſame time the old man ſpared me leſs; he ſtruck me on the ſhoulder, but luckily it only grazed me lightly; I let myſelf fall on my ſide, and by doleful ſounds, and ſoftning geſtures, aſked for what crime I was thus puniſhed? Again I threw myſelf on my knees to the old man. My heart informed me, that it was of him alone I muſt ſolicit mercy. I pointed to the blood which was running down, and mingling with the tears that flowed from my eyes, on my breaſt: I did not accuſe *Julia*; I looked affectionately

ately on her; ſhe threw herſelf, with me, at her father's feet, and diſarmed him: he then went and cut the cord of the net in which I had been taken, and tied my hands together with it; I made no reſiſtance, as I ſaw by his eyes that he would not hurt me, and that what he did, was meant merely to ſecure himſelf. (A *Man of Nature* ſeldom miſtakes the language of the eyes.)

After this prudent precaution, he went and ſought for plants to heal my wounds, and *Julia* prepared to dreſs them: ſhe began with my ſhoulder, ſhe put her hand on it to ſtop the blood: preſently I felt a ſofter ſenſation, a delicious trembling.——*Julia* has ſince confeſſed it was a kiſs of her lovely mouth. ——I fondly gazed at her, I wept, I took her hand, and imprinted on it a thouſand kiſſes: as mine were confined,

ſhe might have eaſily withdrawn it; but in a deſart iſland who can reſiſt love? The old man brought the herbs, which he had gathered at a ſmall diſtance from us. His daughter ſhewed him that I held her hand; he ſeemed affected with this circumſtance, and ſaid two words to her; ſhe withdrew it, giving me a look of affection, and went towards the cottage.——I cried out ſo bitterly that ſhe returned; I threatened to break my bonds and follow her, for my feet were at liberty. I ſaw her intreat her father, and cling around him: he went himſelf to the place to which he would have ſent her, and left us together: I careſſed my dear *Julia* a thouſand times, which I ſhould have done with the ſame ardour, even in her father's preſence. He ſoon returned, and brought an earthern pan of water to waſh my wounds, and ſome linnen to bind them up. If I could have attended

tended to any other object, than that which filled my whole ſoul, I ſhould have been more ſenſible of the tenderneſs and care of *Euphemon*. I ſhould alſo have looked with ſome attention at the vaſe; but I only ſaw *Julia*; my love for her was exceſſive. It is perhaps a misfortune to have paſſed our early days without having ſeen women: on firſt beholding one at a maturer age, our feelings deprive us of liberty and reaſon.

CHAP. II.

WHEN my wounds were dreſſed, they were deſirous to conduct me to the cottage: and this was no difficult taſk, ſince *Julia* led the way: ſhe went gaily on before, I followed her, and her father walked after us. By one of thoſe amiable caprices, ſo common to women, ſhe frequently turned round and ſmiled, then ran a few ſteps laughing, and looking back to obſerve if I followed her. Was this experiment neceſſary to convince her of my attachment? Was ſhe ignorant of the power the loadſtone has over iron? Her charms had yet a more powerful attraction over my ſoul. She teſtified by another gracious ſmile, that my paſſion pleaſed her, and

and this ſmile nouriſhed my ſoul, as the morning dew refreſhes the flowers.

After a few minutes walk, we arrived at an angle of the wood, but nothing yet appeared like a dwelling made by the hands of art. *Euphemon* had prudently hid his; there is no being too ſecure, even in a deſart. *Julia* entered the wood, without following any beaten path (there was not any, nor was any neceſſary.) When we got into the wood about the diſtance of a muſket ſhot, ſhe went through a thicket that had a very narrow entrance, and a ſpacious incloſure opened to our view; the edges were filled with quickſets, brambles, and ſhrubs, ſo naturally planted as to prevent ſuſpicion. In the middle of this incloſure was the cottage of my hoſts. The elegance and ſimplicity of it was not leſs admirable, than that of *Baucis* and

Philemon:

Philemon: but this had never yet been the manſion of Love: he now entered into it with *Julia* and me.

Upon a rich green, enamelled with flowers, a ſmall flock of goats ſkipped and played with ſome ſheep and dogs; the dogs (for there were three) played among the goats and ſheep; *Euphemon* did not apprehend theſe animals would ſtray, this beautiful field being lined with paliſadoes; nor did he fear their cries would diſcover his abode. His dogs were ſo gentle, they never barked, not even at me who was a ſtranger. His lambs and kids, being always near their dams, were well fed, ſeldom bleated, and beſides, the thickneſs of the wood that ſurrounded the field, prevented their being heard. We were ſcarcely ſat down, when a dog barked at the door: *Julia* and her father ſeemed alarmed; I got up careleſly,

careleſly, for I knew it was mine; but they not gueſſing what it could mean, climbed up a high tree to look out, leſt there ſhould be an enemy near; they then led me to the door and opened it, and my dog came fawning on me, and on my hoſts.

EUPHEMON's houſe conſiſted of three large rooms on a floor. He told me ſince I became capable of underſtanding him, that he was well educated, that for his amuſement he had learned all the uſeful arts, that is to ſay, all arts that are moſt eſſential to man, and which muſt prove ſerviceable to him, if ever he ſhould be unfortunately deprived of ſociety. This is what may truly be called a good education. This houſe was built of white clay, and was but ten feet high: the roof was covered with boards, and formed an obtuſe angle: it

was

was not proper it ſhould be higher than the loweſt tree that ſurrounded it: happy the man, whoſe ſafety and intereſt oblige him to avoid oſtentation!

EUPHEMON's retirement, to me was moſt enchanting. It was whitened within and without, and was glazed; there were two beds, ſome chairs and tables, and various veſſels and utenſils, which appeared to me more wonderful, as I could not diſcover their uſe. But this cottage was the abode of my *Julia*, conceive then, if poſſible, how magnificent a palace it ſeemed to me.

THERE was one thing wanting, which I thought as ornamental as neceſſary; in vain I looked in every part of the houſe, but could not find it.——This was fire. I obſerved ſome aſhes in a chimney, and as my hands were tied,

I went

I went to ſtir them with my feet: *Julia* ſtopped me; ſhe feared I ſhould burn myſelf; ſhe ſcattered the aſhes with the tongs, and ſeemed pleaſed there was not any fire; ſhe ſaw that I regretted it, and to ſatisfy me, ſhe took a piſtol, in the pan of which was a brimſtone match, ſhe pulled the trigger, and all of a ſudden I ſaw ſmoke, and a beautiful blue flame. The diſagreeable ſmell of the brimſtone made me ſhake my head, but I ſoon compoſed myſelf; could I pay too dear for the pleaſure of ſeeing a fire? and ſeeing it produced by the hand of *Julia*! She laid on ſome dry twigs, but never thought of preparing dinner, though the hour was paſſed. I took up all her attention, and the attention of her father, though in a different manner. They ſaw I knew what fire was, but that was the extent of my knowledge. I

ſtared

ſtared at every thing elſe which I ſaw for the firſt time. They took me for a ſavage; but how came I into that iſland? Was I born there? Was I carried thither? Or did I live there alone? Thoſe, as they ſince told me, were their reflections, mingled with a deſire to make me anſwer all theſe queſtions. *Julia*'s advice (as may be eaſily believed) was to untie my hands, and inſpire me with confidence: her father conſented, and let her have the pleaſure of ſetting me at liberty; I was not hurt by being bound, I thought it a neceſſary evil; I did not even feel the cords, except when I would have taken *Julia* in my arms, then indeed they were inſupportable.

JULIA and her father ſpoke French. As ſhe untied the knots, ſhe ſaid to me thoſe words, which I made her repeat

to

to me afterwards. "My friend, will you ever forget what I am doing for you? Will you always love me?" I anſwered her two or three times, with the tendereſt voice, *Let him alone*, which made them laugh heartily, and I joined in their mirth.

THE firſt uſe I made of my arms, after they were free, was to preſs *Julia* to my heart; this delightful communication ſeemed to me to be the moſt ſupreme pleaſure.

DELIGHTED to have recovered the uſe of my hands, I took *Julia* and led her to the chamber; I diſplaced every thing within my reach, to give them to her; at laſt I came to the piſtol; I ſpent a good deal of time in examining it, I turned it a thouſand ways, I blew into it, I would have kindled a fire.——I

ſhall

ſhall not enlarge theſe memoirs with every trifling particular, which the imagination of the reader can eaſily ſupply, but paſs on to more intereſting ſubjects.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

I HAD lived near eight days with my dear hoſts: my apparent integrity and innocence induced them to love me. *Euphemon* came himſelf, cut the cords which bound my limbs, and threw them on the fire; he caſt them in with ſuch indignation, as ſhewed me that he would not have left them on me ſo long, had he not been obliged to it to prevent my leaving them. He preſſed me in his arms, he wept; and *Julia* joined us: it was an affecting ſcene to ſee our mutual careſſes. I explained to them, by preſſing them to my breaſt, that I was theirs for life, and that henceforward they alone were to make me happy.

My wounds were already healed; for the wounds of a man whoſe diet is vegetables, who lives temperately, and keeps regular hours, ſoon heal. But the wound which love had made in my heart, was become dangerous. I fell away, I loſt my appetite, my eyes were hollow, my cheeks grew lank, and a devouring flame ran through my veins.

Julia, who was not leſs changed, nor leſs unhappy than me, threw herſelf at her father's feet, and repreſented how greatly we ſuffered, although there was no reaſonable objection to our being made happy.——I felt what ſhe ſaid to him, and ſuppoſed the favour ſhe aſked; I threw myſelf alſo at his feet, we mingled our tears together: he gave me *Julia*'s hand, and looked down on us with parental tenderneſs.

That inſtant I ſaw my happineſs in *Julia*'s eyes. Love, with all his fire, was collected in them: it was more than was neceſſary to inflame me. I conjured the old man to leave us; I felt that love delights in the veil of decency and myſtery. *Julia* ſtopped *Euphemon*, and made me underſtand by an ardent kiſs, accompanied with a ſigh, that though Love, perhaps, would have pleaded my cauſe, yet a *force ſuperior* to *Love* check'd it.—I was then ignorant, and did not know that the imagination was more powerful than the heart. My thoughts were turned to melancholy; and I ſaid within myſelf, Is there then any law more powerful than that of Nature? Doubtleſs there is, and ſince *Julia* ſubmits to it, it muſt be juſt; ſhe is reaſonable, and cannot long oppoſe that of Nature: ſhe will not delay to fulfil my wiſhes. Encouraged by this reflection,

I gave

I gave back her kiſs, I returned her ſigh, and looked affectionately at her. *Euphemon* having, as ſhe has ſince told me, in a few words, anſwered the weak objections ſhe made to the irregularity of our marriage, left the houſe to purſue his uſual avocations: we were alone, we loved; my eyes expreſſed the emotions of my heart, and Julia no longer delayed my happineſs.

Holy tie of Nature, you united us at that moment. Modeſty and delicacy, inſeparable companions of true delight, quickened and enlivened our pleaſures. Virtue and love ſealed our union. Nothing hitherto has been able to break this reſpectable, this inviolable bond. May we, my dear *Julia*, may we die together; be united even in the tomb, and remain an example to after-times of conjugal happineſs.

Our

Our faces overſpread with modeſt bluſhes, our eyes ſparkling with that pure joy, which a conſciouſneſs of virtue alone can kindle, we went in purſuit of *Euphemon*, who ſhared our happineſs. In us he ſaw renewed the future hopes of poſterity. We became the conſolation of his age. This iſland was to him no longer a deſert, a frightful tomb, where he and his daughter muſt have periſhed; it ſeemed, on the contrary, a happy retreat, where he fancied he ſaw a long ſucceſſion of deſcendants multiplying, and living in peace.

The poſſeſſion of *Julia* reſtoring my tranquility, rendered me alſo more docile. *Euphemon* reſolved to teach me his language; but all his trouble would have been loſt, if the neceſſity of ſpeaking, and, perhaps, love, had not perſuaded me to improve by his leſſons.

Sometimes he called his daughter, and as ſoon as he had pronounced the word *Julia*, ſhe anſwered, *Here I am.* Theſe new ſounds appeared ſo ſweet, that they almoſt made me forget, *let him alone.* Every inſtant I repeated with a ſtrong voice, *Julia*; and I anſwered myſelf, ſoftening it, *here I am.* That diverted *Julia* and her father; I laughed to ſee them laugh.

One day after dinner, it came into *Julia*'s head to compoſe a dialogue with me, with which I ſhall preſent my readers. Would to God lovers had never known any other! How infinitely ſuperior would they find it, to the tautology with which they now expreſs their paſſion. She took me by the hand, kiſs'd me, and ſaid with a voice which imitated her father's, *Julia, I love thee*; immediately I repeated, *Julia, I love thee,*

I love

I love thee; ſhe put her hand on my mouth, and ſaid, *Ariſtus, I love thee*; (for ſo her father would have me named.) She added, ſwelling her voice, *Do you love me much?* She took her hand off my lips, and I repeated with the ſame voice, *Do you love me much?* She anſwered, preventing me at the ſame time from ſpeaking, *Yes, my friend, very much: and you?* then changing to a ſtrong voice, gave me leave to anſwer, *O much, very much*, and I repeated, *O much, very much.*

In three leſſons, which did not laſt a quarter of an hour, I learned this dialogue, with all the tender changes of voice which ought to accompany them. I paid my lovely inſtructreſs with more kiſſes than I had pronounced letters, and in truth this was not ſufficient payment, yet ſhe gave them back to me as if

they were not her due: How charming, how generous is the traffic of virtuous love!

I had learned this little converſation moſt willingly; I acquired ſome other words which alſo amuſed me, but I had no deſire to learn to hold long converſations, like thoſe which paſſed between *Euphemon* and *Julia*; converſations which I took great delight in interrupting, with, *I love thee much, O very much*, and other expreſſions to the ſame purpoſe.

CHAP. IV.

ADULTS are not ſo eaſily perſuaded, ſo docile as children; they will not give themſelves any trouble without ſome view, and I ſaw nothing that could make it neceſſary for me to pronounce regulated ſounds in ſucceſſion diſtinctly, after ſuch and ſuch a manner.

EUPHEMON gave me a piece of bread, and as he cut it for me (for I was afraid of iron ſince the ſcene of the two ſwords) ſaid repeatedly, *Bread*; I looked at him and laughed. I thought it ſtrange that in giving it to me, he ſhould think it neceſſary to utter a cry which could not affect it in ſuch a manner as to make

it either more nouriſhing or more agreeable to the taſte, therefore it appeared to me uſeleſs; but he never changed the mode of giving it: for when I ſhewed him the bread, and made ſigns for him to give me ſome, he often repeated, and would make me repeat the word *bread*; *Julia* alſo deſired it: ſometimes from reſpect to the one, and love for the other, I would repeat the word; but ſo careleſsly, that it appeared to mean, *Well, bread, if it muſt be ſo.* I ſoon found they were right to inſiſt on it. One day they hid the bread, and let me faſt. I opened the cupboard, I looked for it, and made ſigns to them, which they pretended not to underſtand; I grew impatient; perhaps, ſaid I, in my own interior language, to make them underſtand what I want, it may be neceſſary to repeat their cry. I pronounced *bread* in a paſſion, which was what they

they wiſhed: they haſtened to bring it to me. I then ſaw clearly that thoſe diſtinct ſounds are uſeleſs when the thing they expreſs is preſent, but are neceſſary when the object is not before our eyes: I then reſolved to learn to ſpeak.

The livelineſs and intereſted look which I obſerved in *Euphemon* and *Julia*, when they converſed, heightened my deſire to underſtand and talk like them. I determined inſtantly to liſten to them attentively, which I never yet had done; and, in order to explain to them the reſolution I had taken, I repeated ſeveral times with a thoughtful look, *bread*; and as I ſaid the word, I ſhewed them the bread.

We walked every day in our ſmall, but peaceful domain; they had already ſhewn me their menagerie; it contained

cocks and hens, partridges, pigeons, doves, and pheaſants. Theſe birds were not ſhut in or reſtrained: the place where they were kept was only a green lawn; round which, in the trees and buſhes, they built their neſts, and came to this ſpot when called to feed.

EUPHEMON and *Julia* had tamed each ſucceſſive race during the two years that they had been in the iſland; I went to ſee them every day, and *Julia* never failed to accompany me; this was one of our moſt pleaſing amuſements; but we never went either there, or elſewhere, without firſt getting up into a large dead tree, in the trunk of which, *Euphemon* had conſtructed winding ſteps which led to the top; from whence, as from an obſervatory, we ſaw the whole iſland, except what was hid by the mountains (which was the part I had

had inhabited) ſo that before we went out of our fortification, we were ſatisfied as much as poſſible, that there were no enemies near. I repeat, we aſſured ourſelves *as much as poſſible*, becauſe we could not ſee into the wood, nor beyond the rocks.

One day as we walked with *Euphemon*, (who was ſo far from limiting our pleaſures, that he rather endeavoured to add to their number) *Julia* led us toward a little rock, the ſituation of which ſhe knew.

When we were very near the rock, ſhe ſaid in a low voice, *Ariſtus, I love thee*; exaſperated that ſhe ſhould change the method of our dialogue, which ſhe had never done before, I ſcarce gave her time to finiſh her ſentence, when I cried with a loud voice, *Julia, I love thee.* A

voice like mine repeated diſtinctly, *Julia, I love thee*; I look'd about, I ran a few ſteps, but there was nothing to be ſeen. I added, with violent emotion, ſcarce knowing what I ſaid, *O! much, very much.* The ſame voice repeated it. At this moment I firſt experienced *that deſtructive and painful* ſenſation JEALOUSY. Without knowing that there were any other men exiſting beſide *Euphemon* and me, I would have purſued him that had thus raſhly dared to repeat my words. *Julia*, laughing, held me, and to make me eaſy, ſaid again, *Ariſtus, I love thee*; a woman's voice, which I did not wait to hear the firſt time, anſwered, *Ariſtus, I love thee*; at theſe words my anger redoubled; I was almoſt as furious that any other woman dared to ſpeak to me, as that any other man ſhould dare to ſpeak to *Julia*.——She careſs'd me, and ſilently led me to the foot of the rock;

we

we entered the cave, and walked about together; we did not ſee any body. *Julia* ſaid ſome words which reſounded in every angle; and in every hollow of the cave, ſomething repeated the words. I then perceived what echo was; that thoſe monſters of the night, which had ſo often before alarmed me, and thoſe other monſters that now made me ſo angry and jealous, were only the air modified and reverberated, and my mind grew calm.

CHAP. V.

EUPHEMON and *Julia* perceived, with that ſatisfaction which virtuous minds ever experience, at beholding its effect on that of others, that I ſometimes raiſed my hands towards heaven, and ſometimes proſtrated myſelf on the ground to worſhip God,—ſhewing him thoſe other ſelfs which he had given me, and thanking him for a gift ſo precious. One thing, however, made them uneaſy; they ſaw I always looked for the ſun, and they feared that it was the particular object of my devotion: when they prayed, they affected to turn their backs to it, in order to diſcover my ſentiments more fully. I did not ſeem pleaſed, nor did I follow their example. At laſt the good old *Euphemon*, who as

yet

yet had never dared to mention the name of GOD to me, nor expreſſed him by any appellation, as he had done in naming thoſe things which ſtruck my eyes, ſuch as heaven, the ſun, the earth, the ſea, &c.—one day conducted me to a very high rock: when he had gained the ſummit, he took one of my hands, his own trembling with devout ardour. ——He gazed affectionately on me, and ſhed tears. He then raiſed up the hand that was diſengaged to heaven, and with a tone of voice, that it is impoſſible to deſcribe, but with which the heart is well acquainted, he ſaid to me, GOD.

I was ſtruck with reverence and awe, I looked at *Euphemon*; his tears excited mine.——I trembled.——I was thoughtful.——It was not of heaven that he had been ſpeaking to me, and yet I ſaw nothing but heaven.——He has then,

then, thought I, named that great Being who is even above heaven——That Great Being, whom, unknown, I adore. ——Yes, it was his great name that he pronounced; I read it in my father's ſoul, whilſt his lips pronounce it. After this inward ſoliloquy, I took *Euphemon* and *Julia* by the hand, and ſaid to them, pointing to the objects as I named them — *Euphemon* — *Julia* — *Ariſtus*— *Sea*—*Earth*—*Trees*—*Rocks*—*Heaven*—*Sun*—God.——This profeſſion of faith was clear; they underſtood it without difficulty: we proſtrated ourſelves on the earth, on the ſide oppoſite to the ſun. ——When we aroſe, I reſolved to gather ſome ſtones to erect a monument that might remain for ever before our eyes, on that ſpot where my heart firſt conceived a perfect idea of the Deity.——But on reflection, I conſidered that the rock, and every object round it, would remain a per-

a perpetual memorial of our acknowledgment of the divine Author of our exiſtence. We deſcended from the rock, and returned, bleſſing God, to our chaſte and happy abode.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

EUPHEMON and *Julia* were born in France; they were Roman Catholicks, and joined in the ceremonies and worſhip of that church.——They had a perpetual calendar, in which all the feſtivals were marked, and which they religiouſly obſerved: I was affected with it, and imitated them. I endeavoured to penetrate their hearts, and I was even already become a Chriſtian.——*Euphemon* would ſometimes ſhew me the picture of a ſaint, or preſent to me a crucifix.——He appeared affected, eſpecially when he ſhewed me the crucifix; but as the figure was made of ſilver, I could not diſcern the wounds, or have

any

any idea of the blood which ſhould have flow'd from them or any other mark of ſuffering: it therefore made little impreſſion upon me. But what made on me a much more lively impreſſion, was the ſame face naturally painted.---A head bleeding, and expiring; a countenance full of candour, majeſty, and ſweetneſs; a mouth half open, from whence exhaled the laſt breath of life; eyes, which before they cloſed ſeemed to throw on me a paternal regard.——I melted into tears, and like an infant, who at the ſight of an afflicting object, hides itſelf in the boſom of its mother, I threw myſelf on the boſom of *Julia*, and haſtily ſnatching the linnen which covered her neck, attempted to ſtop the blood which ſeemed to flow. But though I perceived my error, my grief, my tender compaſſion did not abate. —— *Euphemon* and *Julia*, delighted

lighted at this ſcene, wept alſo; we mingled our tears, and they continued to flow, even after *Euphemon* had removed this divine reſemblance.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

DURING the two months that I had the felicity of living with *Euphemon* and his daughter, I enjoyed the true pleaſures of ſociety. I have not yet mentioned that of muſick, one of the moſt agreeable. *Euphemon* played on the flute, *Julia* ſung: they had a concert the very day I came to them.—— They had lived two years, far from every object of uneaſineſs; they had genius, and capacity; their minds were innocent, and conſequently feeling. Unite theſe perfections, and judge how harmonious, how ſpeaking the muſick which they compoſed muſt have been. Let me remind the reader, that I never heard either voice or inſtrument before; the

the ſounds which I firſt liſtened to were raviſhing, and were uttered by a woman whom I adored.——She began with theſe words, ſo worthy of David, ſo expreſſive of the bounty of the Deity; "*The Heavens declare the glory of* GOD, *&c.*"——I gazed at her, I liſtened to her, and ſhould have expired with the violence of my ſenſations, if her looks had ceaſed an inſtant to ſupply my heart with the flame of life.

HER notes always ſounded to me equally ſweet, equally ſoft; but by degrees their charms ceaſed to create that exſtacy, which deprived me of the power of enjoying them. If my nerves, if every ſpring of my ſoul had not been bent, and put in uniſon with the voice and inſtrument by degrees, I could not have outlived ſome of the lofty parts, in which ſhe excelled herſelf. After this

ode,

ode, this divine muſick, compoſed to be eternally preſerved, *Julia* willing to make me leſs feeling, leſs alive, with reſpect to the paſſage from heaven to earth, ſung that ſweet cantata of rural feaſts.

" How it delights me to ſee thee again, agreeable retreat, &c."

At this firſt concert I was exceeding anxious to know, what connexion the little black dots that were marked on white paper, had with the ſounds which I heard; I explained to *Julia*, as well as I could, the cauſe of my uneaſineſs; ſhe ſoon gueſſed at them, and in ſinging, ſhe touched each note with the point of a needle, and made me perceive that ſhe raiſed and lowered her voice, according to the poſition of the notes. She continued daily to give me leſſons, which pleaſed me much; I had a good voice,

voice, and I was heartily diſpoſed to learn.——Almighty Love was my tutor. I underſtood muſick much ſooner than French; next to tender looks and ſighs, muſick moſt lively expreſſes our ſenſations; conſequently an uncultivated mind learns it with greater alacrity; we may add, that the rules are more ſimple and more conciſe, than any language whatſoever.

One day after *Euphemon* and *Julia* had finiſhed their concert, we went to the Rock of God; (for ſo we had named that on which we worſhipped together.) From the height of this rock, there was a moſt extenſive proſpect. *Euphemon*, who had long wiſhed to know if I was the only inhabitant on the other part of the iſland, tried an expedient to make me inform him.

He

He deſired his daughter to come near him, and made me retire a few ſteps, bidding me "attend."——(I underſtood this and many other words.) He laid a ſtone by his ſide, and another by his daughter; he then took up both the ſtones, and ſhewing me the part of the iſland where we lived, he caſt them together toward the cottage, and ſaid, pointing to his daughter and himſelf, *Julia*——*Euphemon*:——till then, however great my attention was to him, I did not underſtand in the leaſt, what he meant; he then came and put a ſtone by my ſide, but looked uncertain and embarraſſed; then laid down five others by the ſide of the firſt, all in the ſame direction with me: he took others in his hand, and offered them to me, ſhewing me the part of the iſland I had lived in. I underſtood that he would ſay, he had always lived with *Julia* only, in that

part of the iſland where he had thrown the ſtones, and that he wanted to be informed how many perſons had lived with me on the other part: the anſwer was eaſy; I took the ſtones which he offered me, and I threw them at my feet; I removed the other five which he had laid down, and taking up the next to me, threw it towards the part from whence I came, and pointing to myſelf with one hand, and ſhewing the part of the iſland where I lived, with the other, I exclaimed, *Ariſtus alone.*——Tears guſhed from his eyes as well as *Julia*'s, they embraced me joyfully: they have ſince told me why they were rejoiced.

Soon after their arrival in the iſland, (and they came thither in the ſame year with me) a deſire to know if it was peopled, encouraged them to come where I was, by private roads and in the dark.

They ſaw me naked, and they were convinced there were ſome cannibals or man eaters in the iſland; which was their real motive for fixing on ſo retired and hidden a retreat. They began to hope theſe conjectures were ill founded, as in five years they had ſeen no other perſon than me. My anſwer compleatly ſatisfied them. All they wiſhed now to know, was, from whence I came into this iſland? They knew it the next morning, as far as was poſſible, and more clearly than I knew myſelf.

I endeavored frequently, ſince I had been with them, to conduct them to my old habitation; but they had never ventured to go thither. I was not inclined to leave them, for thoſe places could not have brought any thing ſo pleaſing to my mind, as what I then enjoyed; every moment that I paſſed out of *Julia*'s ſight,

would have appeared to me as ſo many ages. Beſides, if I went to any diſtance, I ſhould be ſuſpected by her, and her father; any one of theſe objections was more than ſufficient to deter me from ſuch an intention. But one day *Euphemon* and *Julia* armed themſelves, and gave me a ſword, which I would not receive till I had got the better of my fears of touching it; *Euphemon* ſaid, ſhewing me the cottage as we went out of it: *This is the dwelling of Euphemon* ——Let us go to that of *Ariſtus*—— And on ſaying this, he led the way to my old abode. I anſwered like a man, who perfectly underſtood what he ſaid: *Yes, Yes,* and we began our march.

EUPHEMON had that morning rooted up a ſhrub in the wood, and planted it in the incloſure before he ſet out; he would have left the ſpade there, but I earneſtly

deſired

deſired he would let me carry it. Some tears of affection which he ſaw gathering in my eyes, prevented his refuſing me. I had already ſeen trees planted with ſucceſs, they began to ſhoot forth leaves and branches, and I promiſed myſelf to plant one on a particular ſpot in the iſland, and which love had pointed out to me; I was now going to feel this pleaſure; for this purpoſe I aſked the ſpade with ſo much ſolicitude, and for this purpoſe I marched boldly, like a Roman, with my ſword and ſpade.

We arrived at the place of my former reſidence; I ſaluted my cave as I entered it, at the ſame time aſſuring *Julia* that I would not reſide there any more. I led her to the Monument of Dreams: I deſired ſhe would kiſs it, and collect ſome flowers for this memorial of bliſs; after I had ſet the example, ſhe kiſſed it,

and ſtrewed ſome flowers on it. I then went and rooted up a young tree in the next grove, and planted it near it, that it might prove a ſhade to this ſtone, which I had ſo often bathed with my tears.

THE fawns, and many of the birds which I had tamed, came and ſhewed every demonſtration of kindneſs: ſome came even to the other end of the iſland, and moſt of them were as familiar with *Julia* and *Euphemon*, as they were with me, before I had the delightful conviction that there were creatures formed to make me happy in their ſociety, and whom I might love to exceſs.

FROM the Monument of Dreams we went to my cage. *Euphemon* collected the broken parts, and put them together; he perceived it was a priſon of boards; there was no doubt but it was brought by a ſhip

a ſhip, and that I had inhabited it. He ſaid to *Julia*, preſſing my hand: "Poor "*Ariſtus*, like us, has been brought here "by people who wiſhed to deſtroy him." He then thought he had found further proofs of this, he caſt his eyes on a piece of poliſhed ſtone, on which was engraved the following words; I have often ſince read them.

On the 6th. of May in the year 1739, *was depoſited here in the hands of Nature, to be the ſubject of an experiment which may become uſeful, Gaſpar Williams, born in England the* 11th *of July* 1724: *he has never yet lived but in a wooden cage, ſhut up on all ſides, and had never ſeen any human creature, or heard the ſound of any voice, when he was left on this iſland.*

THIS convinced us that we were its only inhabitants, and from that time we had no terrors, though we were always cautious in our walks; for ſhips might come to an anchor every inſtant: the more happy we were, the more we dreaded ſome evil would interrupt our felicity.

THE day after we had walked to my abode, I looked for the net in which I had been taken, and when I had found it, I ſaid to *Julia*, and her father, *Let us go.* They were inquiſitive to ſee whither I would lead them, and what I was going to do; I took them to the place where *we had firſt ſeen each other*; I ſpread the net in an aukward manner, they laughed at me, and I laughed with them: however I perſevered, and when I had done, I ſaid to them, emphatically, and pointing to myſelf, *Me, and no more.*

THEY

They underſtood perfectly that I meant to ſay, ſince they had taken me, they did not think it neceſſary to ſpread a toil for any other animal. I then added, pointing to the net, *in remembrance*, for I loved monuments; it was my only idea of writing hiſtory. *Euphemon* conſented to leave the net. My great eagerneſs to enjoy the ſweet ſociety of my wife and her father with greater facility, induced me to learn in a ſhort time, French, Latin, Philoſophy; alſo to write, to draw, arithmetick and menſuration.

CHAP. VIII.

THE rapid progreſs which I made in learning, will not appear aſtoniſhing, when it is conſidered, that the leſſons which I received, were given by friendſhip and love.

At the end of nine months, *Julia* brought me a ſon. At the ſight of this new and endearing object, my heart was agitated to exceſs; I took him in my arms, and loaded him with careſſes. I then felt how expanſive the ſoul of man is; mine ſeemed to me to animate three perſons at the ſame inſtant.——I always thought I loved *Julia* as much as was poſſible; but I was miſtaken. How greatly did my love for her increaſe, when I ſaw her fulfilling the tendereſt

and

and moſt inviolable duty; when I ſaw my dear ſon growing, and looking beautiful as a flower, on the boſom of his mother, my lovely wife.

EUPHEMON rejoiced with me moſt ſincerely: he ſaw himſelf ſpring up again in the perſon of his grand-child. This was a freſh tie of affection between him, his daughter, and me. I redoubled my attention to learn, that I might impart my knowledge to my ſon immediately; for I did not know that infancy was of ſo long a duration; and that the time to acquire real knowledge, did not begin till towards the tenth year.

BEFORE my ſon was two years old, I had made a conſiderable progreſs, I had learned to ſpeak, to read and write, and I underſtood muſic. *Euphemon* then taught me to meaſure time with preciſion,

and to know what a year was: that twenty-three years before, I was born in the ſame manner as my ſon was; that at that period I was as little as him; that I was fifteen years old when I got out of my cage, of which I ſhewed him the remains; that I had been five years alone in the iſland; that I had lived three years with them; that our iſland was one of the ſmalleſt points of the earth; that there were as many men ſpread over the face of the earth, as there were leaves on the trees of our iſland.

When he had made me acquainted with theſe ſtrange things, and many other introductory circumſtances, he related to me, as we ſat at the ſide of our cottage, all his hiſtory: he was very prolix, (old men are generally ſo) but we were not limited in time: all he ſaid was new to me, and it intereſted me very

much, becauſe I had a ſincere friendſhip for him. I took great pleaſure in liſtening to him, but I ſhall not go further back than the hiſtory of his arrival in this iſland, and the manner of their living till I had the good fortune of falling into their hands. I ſhall give it to my readers almoſt word for word, as he told it me; for it made ſo great an impreſſion on me, that no part of it has eſcaped my memory. It is certain I interrupted him frequently, by aſking queſtions, but I ſhall omit thoſe tireſome parentheſes.

CHAP. IX.

HAVING gradually led me on from the day his father and mother were married, and from the day of his birth to that on which he undertook the voyage which terminated on this iſland, he proceeded thus. Give me all your attention, my ſon, my dear *Ariſtus*, whilſt I relate this moſt intereſting period. When I left France, to proceed on a voyage which has brought me to live with you on this iſland, my wife had been dead above a year, as I have already told you. And of four children which I had, *Julia* was the only ſurviving one. Two powerful nations who had long been at war, happily at laſt concluded peace; commerce began again to flouriſh: that of the colonies

lonies enjoyed great advantages; and I was willing to hazard the little I poſſeſſed, either to add to it, or loſe it in the purſuit. I loſt all; I then lamented my ill fortune, I now think myſelf the happieſt of mankind.

I loved *Julia* tenderly; you ſee how much ſhe deſerves it: and I wiſhed that ſhe ſhould come and ſhare with me the treaſures of Peru; (for there I deſigned to ſettle;) ſhe was not infected, like me, with a rage for riches: but ſhe loved me, and obeyed me without making any oppoſition to my will. Heaven has amply rewarded her. O how far preferable is the fortune ſhe has met here, to thoſe treaſures we were in purſuit of in the new world.

I entered into partnerſhip with three other traders, whoſe capital was not equal

equal to mine. I granted them certain privileges. Two of them had the courage (as it is vulgarly called) to abandon their wives and children. We ſailed, after having entered into ſuch articles as the law directs, but which are of no efficacy where they are moſt wanted, that is, when the wicked, with whom we have engaged, are able to avail themſelves of the only law they acknowledge, a law by which they are ſometimes oppreſſed, the ſavage law of force.

My partners were almoſt always together: as for me, I amuſed myſelf with my *Julia*: we read, we compoſed muſic, and built caſtles in the air, with our future riches. We ſettled plans to inſure the happineſs of all around us; but whilſt we thought ourſelves in the greateſt ſecurity, a dreadful ſtorm was gathering over our heads.

As

As we ſailed near this iſland, my treacherous partners having gained part of the crew, threatened the reſt, who doubtleſs were the feweſt in number, conſequently the weakeſt. They determined to turn pirates, and begin with the ſpoils of their benefactor. One of them came to us, with that inſulting air which profligates always ſtand in need of, to encourage and deceive themſelves. He appeared inflamed with wine: "Your voyage, ſaid he, will be "ſooner at an end than ours; conſe-"quently you will be ſecure from many "dangers that we have ſtill to fear; in-"ſtead of the vain riches which we are "going to ſeek for in ſavage countries, "you will find in this iſland, though a "deſart, tranquility and peace of mind. "——We ſhall take that caſket, in "which you have told us you keep your

"money,

" money, and your daughter's jewels;
" of what ſervice would it be to you
" here? We will leave you, inſtead of
" it, ſeveral things infinitely more uſe-
" ful."

JULIA fell on my breaſt and fainted, I uſed every method to recover her; they made us diſembark, they gave us proviſions, arms, furniture, inſtruments for various trades, which happily I knew, (a knowledge always uſeful, and ſometimes neceſſary). We received with gratitude thoſe real treaſures which our enemies left us; and we pardoned them for having taken from us what would be uſeleſs. We judged they were ſufficiently puniſhed for their injuſtice, by the reproaches of their own hearts, the conviction of each others villainy. They gave us every thing that was neceſſary to us, and even more than we wanted.

He

He of our aſſociates that had abuſed us, had retired; doubtleſs he was ſtruck with ſome remorſe; the other two were ſcarce able to bear our looks: at that moment we had the ſtrongeſt proof of the vaſt ſuperiority virtue has over vice, even when the latter ſeems triumphant.

To leſſen, if poſſible, in their own eyes, the atrociouſneſs of the crime, they cauſed all we could wiſh for, to be left on the ſhore near us. One of them inſiſted on our having three beds, though we refuſed the third. A purſer, whom I had placed in the ſhip, ſaid, inſultingly, that this bed would be of ſervice, if one of my friends ſhould come to viſit me. He ſpoke prophetically, ſaid the good old man, preſſing my hand, and it was thee, my dear *Ariſtus*, that was deſtined to be that friend. After other inſults, which afflicted, but did not aſto-

niſh

niſh me, they left us; the ſhip ſailed, and was ſoon out of ſight: we gazed at each other, torrents of tears flowed from our eyes. I embraced *Julia*.——Moderate your grief, my dear child, ſaid I to her; we will live, or we will die together; we are not totally bereft of comfort: this iſland is indeed a deſart, we are excluded the ſociety of men; but after having experienced the treachery of thoſe from whoſe hands we are juſt delivered, is that a circumſtance to be regretted? Providence, by ſome event which now ſeems impoſſible to us, may ſend hither a huſband worthy of thee; thou mayeſt yet be the mother of a great people, and make them happy, by inſpiring them with ſentiments of virtue. Here we have no other enemies to encounter, but the wild beaſts, if there are any. If there are, I have fire-arms and ammunition, and can deſtroy them. We

have nothing to fear from them, except whilſt we ſleep. Let us take courage, and we may paſs the night in ſafety. Let us labour from this moment; let us convey the little they have left us, to the edge of the foreſt, which is not above a hundred yards from hence. To-morrow we will ſeek a ſheltered retreat in the leaſt acceſſible part of the wood, and there fix our abode.

We were forced to carry our goods up a bank of ſand, but fortunately it was an eaſy aſcent, and the ſand was compact. One of our beds ſerved us for a carriage; I faſtened a cord to it, and my daughter and I drew it to the borders of the foreſt.——In five or ſix turns, we carried all that was moſt neceſſary for our uſe; that is to ſay, proviſions, ſome kitchen furniture, clothes, linnen, books, ſome pictures, &c. boards,

carpen-

carpenters tools, joiners and lockſmiths implements, cords, nails, &c.

We entered into the foreſt, and ſought for a convenient and ſafe place to depoſite our riches. We made choice of this aſylum. All our ſubſtance was ſoon removed. Our ſtrength and courage increaſes when we feel that we cannot depend on receiving the aſſiſtance of others. I haſtily made a hut of boards; the ſaw, the mallet, the gimblet, the hammer, the chiſſel, were all uſed by turns: but I found no occaſion for the plane; I did not then attend to elegance or neatneſs; I thought of nothing more than a ſecure retreat from the attacks of the wild beaſts.

They left me two geeſe, which I killed the ſame day, becauſe they made too much noiſe, and might have betrayed

us; a ram and three ewes, of which there are yet two, ſkipping yonder on the green lawn, among thoſe five lambs which they have produced us: a dog and a bitch, who have brought us that one puppy which you ſee with them, and many others that I was obliged to deſtroy, or their numbers would have been too many: and laſtly, ſix hens and a cock.

We brought all theſe animals into this incloſure, to which I had opened a paſſage, by drawing up ſome ſhrubs; I replanted them inſtantly, when all were entered, and made a very clumſy little door, as narrow as that you now ſee: but this is much better made. The other diſpleaſed and offended my eye; and this convinced me that we are not free from vanity even in ſolitude, when we have no witneſſes to give us pleaſure; for

ſurely my daughter could not be conſidered as a formidable evidence againſt my ignorance.

THIS eſtabliſhment of ſo new and ſingular a kind, employed us greatly: we had no leiſure either to idle, to become weary, or even to reflect that we were unfortunate; and conſequently, we were not ſo much ſo, as might be imagined. I confirmed myſelf in the pleaſing idea we ſhould find happineſs here, which often eludes our ſearch in the buſy world. I ſaid one day to *Julia*, It is time for us to eſtabliſh in our little empire, I will not ſay, a form; for that which it may have hereafter, will be, perhaps, alas! only too regular: but let us at leaſt give it a name, which may be ſuitable to it. Our hearts were at peace; we pardoned the perfidy of our partners, who promiſed us ironically, that we ſhould hereafter

after be thankful that they let us live; by their conduct we are convinced, that the deſigns of wicked men, are often prevented from having their intended effect, by the interpoſition of Providence. ——It did not appear, that we had any thing to fear from wild animals. This iſland did not ſeem to be of any great extent, it was ſufficiently open, and I ſaw nothing to alarm us—— Peace is lately proclaimed in the nation we have left——Theſe are ſufficient motives for calling this THE ISLAND OF PEACE. This name ſhall become to us and our poſterity, a monument and an emblem. May our offspring, after the revolution of ages, never dare to profane this holy and venerable name! May our countrymen, who have juſt changed their cruel ſwords to uſeful and peaceable implements of agriculture, never apply them to the ſame horrible purpoſe

purpoſe to which they were lately converted! Saying theſe words, I looked at *Julia*: I ſaw ſhe wept, and I aſked her the reaſon. I hope, ſaid ſhe, that the plough-ſhare may never more give place to the ſword: I think men begin to reaſon, and to have feelings; and the tears that this reflection makes me ſhed, are tears of tenderneſs and pleaſure.

I have interrupted my narrative, to tell you what induced us to call it the ISLAND OF PEACE; I now return to it. The firſt day we brought in our poultry to this incloſure; but having conſidered that their cackling, and particularly the crowing of the cock, might diſcover us, I told *Julia* the next morning, that we ran too great a riſque in keeping them ſo near us; that they muſt be removed, though we ſhould hazard loſing them. I will find out a method to remove, and

to

to preſerve them, anſwered ſhe. I will go and make a large baſket of oſiers in wicker work, with one opening only at the ſide: I will ſet it on the ground, throw ſome corn into it, and all the poultry, when they go in to eat the corn, will I carry to ſome remote place from hence, where I ſhall feed them every day: they will ſettle at that place, and lay their eggs in the buſhes round about, where I ſhall find them. She executed this project, and it even exceeded her hopes: for partridges and pheaſants have been tamed with our fowls, and have annually brought their broods to the ſame place, ſo that we have game ſufficient for our table.

I have not always ſeen with pleaſure, their happy fruitfulneſs; and even during three years, it cauſed me to make grievous reflections. But, my friend,

my dear ſon, ſince Providence has given you to be the comfort of my old age, how greatly is the ſcene changed! I now ſee the proſpect of a happy republic, of which you will be the father.

It was in the beginning of Spring, that we arrived in the iſland, conſequently it was a proper ſeaſon to build: I determined to take advantage of it. "Daughter, ſaid I to *Julia*, perhaps we may "ſtay a long time in this iſland; perhaps "we ſhall be ſo happy, that we may "not wiſh to quit it. I did not loſe "my preſence of mind, whilſt the ſentence was pronouncing that was to fix "my fate. On the contrary, I endeavoured to exert my fortitude, and to "take ſuch things with us, as ſhould "render our ſituation comfortable. One "thing I recollected was window-glaſs; "there was on board a large quantity of "glaſs, which we were carrying to the

"*Weſt-*

" *Weſt-Indies*; I aſked them for ſome, " and they gave me twelve dozen of " ſquares, which are wrapped up in a " piece of an old ſail-cloth, for windows " for an houſe, which I intend to build: " I only wanted this, and ſome tools " which they alſo gave me. I have " ſome induſtry, and a great deal of " courage, and you ſhall ſee the uſe I " will make of them."

JULIA ſmiled at this diſcourſe, embraced me, and promiſed to give me all the aſſiſtance ſhe could. We inſtantly reſolved to go the next night, and fetch ſome clay and ſtones that I had found, at about two hundred paces diſtance from our hut, (to us they were real treaſures): I did not dare to go there in the day-time, for it was in ſearching for thoſe materials that I diſcovered you: from whence I concluded the iſland had other inhabitants.

I employed myſelf the remainder of the day, in conſtructing a kind of tumbril, under which I fixed two levers, with which we might carry it: theſe levers went along the ſides, for I had made it longer than it was broad, becauſe the entrance to our encloſure was narrow, and it was proper it ſhould be ſo, that it might be leſs eaſily perceived. Every night we carried five or ſix loads of ſtones and clay; then returned and paſſed the remainder of the night in our boarded hut.

For the ſame reaſon we carried the ſtones at night, and choſe to walk on the graſs, leſt the mark of our feet ſhould be ſeen; we alſo went very early each morning to carry corn to the fowls, and we did not ſtir out the reſt of the day. We had ſufficient employment to make

our

our ſolitude agreeable: reading and muſic were our recreations; I worked at my building, and *Julia* employed herſelf in avocations which were in appearance trifling, though very uſeful in the hut: for the fewer means and reſources we have to procure ſatisfaction, the more neceſſary it is to ſeek by induſtry to obtain them. Reading entertained us leſs than muſic: we experienced the truth of what a great philoſopher ſays; that we ſcarce ever read for ourſelves, but merely for the vanity of appearing to have read: that in ſhort, when we are quite alone, we rather chuſe to work, to ſing, to walk, to reflect, than to occupy ourſelves with the thoughts of others.

I dug a well near my houſe, where you now go ſo freely to fill the pitchers and other veſſels, to ſpare *Julia* the trouble. Round this well, I planted young

willows, that now ſhade it entirely from the ardour of the ſun. Thus having water, clay, and ſtones, I conceived that I might eaſily build. I was not ſparing of materials in the conſtruction, as they coſt only my trouble; and for the ſame reaſon, I was not laviſh of them. I made the out-walls eighteen inches thick; and the two partitions that divide the center from the right and left hand, one foot. I built my walls nine feet high, and made the roof ſeven; ſo that my houſe was but fifteen feet high, one foot being below the ſurface of the ground: and it is hid by the loweſt tree in the grove. My doors and windows face the ſouth, as you ſee; this aſpect is the moſt agreeable and wholeſome. However, you will ſee in *Europe*, if ever you go there, very few houſes ſo ſituated; and ſuch as are ſo, are indebted to chance for it, or becauſe ſuch a ſituation commands a proſ-

a proſpect of ſome great road, or river: for ſuch a view, they often front the north, though an oblique window or two, might procure a ſight of a public road; but paſſengers, both on the road and river, muſt ſee the grand front of the houſe: for they are not content with being happy, but they muſt appear ſo. Hares fix their forms to the ſouth; and in truth, the inſtinct of hares, in what reſpects animal life, is a thouſand times better than the unfortunate and depraved reaſon of the greateſt part of mankind.

I deſigned the third apartment of my houſe, to ſerve me as a work-ſhop and forge. When it was finiſhed, I adorned it with a joiner's bench, which I made of two thick boards exactly fitted and nailed together; a furnace to heat iron in a large fire of wood, (for I had neither bellows nor coals.) My tools, my iron,

and part of my fire-wood, occupied, as it does yet, the reſt of this chamber.

The firſt apartment ſerves for a bake-houſe and kitchen; I conſtructed thoſe winding ſtairs, which you have ſo long ſuppoſed to be the trunk of a tree that I had hollowed. The next apartment to this, contained our bed-chamber, our dining-room, our ſtudy. I had materials to mount the doors, windows, and window-ſhutters; I had hooks, hinges, and bolts, which were particularly uſeful. I did not fix the window-ſhutters on the outſide, leſt I ſhould ever have a ſiege to ſuſtain: for the ſame reaſon I did not put an outſide door to any part of the houſe, except the firſt entrance; as in caſe of an attack, I could barricade myſelf in an inſtant, and have nothing to fear below; while by means of ſome port-

port-holes I had diſperſed in the roof, I could play off my artillery.

By the aſſiſtance of fire, a hammer, and a very hard ſtone, which ſerved me for an anvil, I had ſhaped and formed my iron-work as I pleaſed. There were but two things wanting to compleat my houſe, which was to be whitened within and without, and to be tiled. The ſame kiln might ſerve to make me lime and tiles; I had ſtones, and had lately diſcovered a vein of potter's clay, and was not ignorant how to make them. I had formerly lived in *France*, in a very agreeable part of the country, ſurrounded with foreſts, ſituated between two towns called *Pont ſainte Maxence*, and *Senlis*, in each of which I had friends, whoſe ſociety was inchanting; there I was perfectly happy; and I ſhould regret that I never can be there again, if I did not

perience in this iſland, comforts which that beautiful country did not afford.—Let it not appear tedious to you, my ſon, to find I ſometimes interrupt my narrative, and return to diſtant times: ſuch a return is very natural to old age: we remember the years that are paſt, often with regret, with a ſigh, if we have employed them fooliſhly; but, on the other hand, we look back to them with pleaſure, when we have made a right uſe of them. You may read in my ſoul, and in the ſerenity of my countenance, how I have paſſed thoſe years that I had lived in *Fleurine*, (which is the name of the country of which I ſpake to you) the ſuburbs of which, like this place, abounds with potters earth; and moſt of the inhabitants are employed in making tiles, to lay their floors, and cover houſes. I often went to ſee them work, and wrought with

them, and you ſee that this art is now become uſeful to me.

I had ſome difficulty to find a convenient place to build my kiln; I wanted to have it environed with high rocks, that might hide the light of the flame, and from the top of which *Julia* might keep watch: I, at length, found ſuch a place as I wiſhed for. From the tops of the rocks that ſurrounded it, might be ſeen almoſt the whole iſland: and though my hut could not be diſcovered (which I ſhould have eſteemed as a misfortune), you might juſt diſcover my incloſure, and the borders that covered it.

At the bottom of a vaſt funnel formed by ſlanting rocks, I built a kiln of ſtone and clay: while I was building it, while I cut wood at the point of the

foreſt, far from my hut, while I carried this wood to the kiln, and while I baked my tiles, and burned my lime, my daughter ſtood centinel on the ſummit of the higheſt rock. If ſhe had ſeen any thing to fear, ſhe was to cry aloud, and ſhew me the ſide from whence the danger came, and make the beſt of her way with me to the hut; we paſſed near five weeks at theſe laborious works, in hours of diſquietude, of which you were the chief cauſe. We had at length materials to tile and whiten our houſe.

What I have told you, my dear *Ariſtus*, of our fears, brings to my mind an idea of a fable concerning the cauſe of that paſſion.

Some ſmall birds, perch'd on a tree, ſaw at a diſtance a man walking briſkly, but with equal ſteps, in a field; his right

right hand was in a continued motion, which anſwered to the motion of his feet: the man frightened them, and they flew off. Some days after they came by chance to this ſame field, and having found it covered with ſeed, repented that they had been alarmed at a man who came to beſtow on them the bleſſings of life: and who prepared yet a greater abundance for the next year.—Inſtead of making a cold application to this fable, which might eaſily have been done, *Euphemon* looked at me with a countenance glowing with affection.

The ſame kiln that had already ſerved me for two purpoſes, was uſeful to me for a third. My clay was of a whitiſh colour, and fine; I reſolved to make plates, diſhes, and other ware of it. They had given me a few when they had turned me out of the ſhip; but I

might increaſe my number by diligent labour, which would alſo prevent my time from appearing tedious to me. I therefore prepared every thing that was neceſſary for this new trade. I dug a pit, broader at the top than at the bottom: I fixed in the middle a pivot, which paſſed through the center of a wheel, made as round as I could. On this center I faſtened a log of wood, that ſhould yield to the motion of the wheel. I laid a plank acroſs the pit, which ſerved me for a ſeat; and a board laid alſo acroſs, with one end ending on the plank, ſerved for a table, on which to place the water for which I had occaſion, and to range my vaſes as I made them. I advanced on the plank, carrying in one hand a thick ſtick and a veſſel full of water; and in the other, a lump of clay, ready to take any form I choſe to give it.—Ah! my friend, exclaimed

claimed the good old man, you muſt be very indulgent not to interrupt me, by ſaying you knew all this proceſs as well as myſelf; and that you lately made a goblet, out of which *Julia* drinks with ſo much pleaſure.

We employed the reſt of the ſummer in preparing againſt the ſeverity of the winter. We particularly gathered a large quantity of *Maize*, or Indian corn, of which I had aſked a few heads from our companions, and which I had ſown on our arrival. We gathered other ſeeds for the fowls; we collected provender for the ſheep; we preſſed an agreeable liquor from various fruits, of which we filled five or ſix large pitchers, which I made on purpoſe. We had twenty or thirty pounds of candles to give us light; and the following Spring, being diſengaged from the various trades that

I was

I was obliged to take up to make my houſe, I amuſed myſelf in cultivating the ground. I had got from my partners ſome handfuls of European wheat, ſome hemp and flax-ſeed, and various vegetable ſeeds. I had ſowed ſome in a hurry that year, and I gathered an hundred fold of them. The ſecond Spring I began to ſet a proper value on them, and to eſteem them the only true, the only deſirable, and (to heap up the meaſure of happineſs) the only riches that are eaſy to accumulate. Then, and even later, we found our treaſures augment, which we poſſeſſed near a year. About ſix weeks after our arrival in the iſland, *Julia* heard the buzzing of ſome bees; ſhe told me this; we went to liſten to them, and we diſcovered their retreat: from that moment ſhe watched them every day till they ſwarmed; ſhe made a hive to receive them: at laſt ſhe

had

had the ſatisfaction to take them, and brought me the ſwarm in triumph: I placed it quietly on a large flag I had prepared for it, on the edge of which, I wrote theſe words of *Virgil*, CELESTIA DONNA (the gift of heaven:) from that ſwarm have come ſucceſſively, thoſe fifteen others which *Julia* has ſo much pleaſure in calling *my hives*. To her we are indebted for the honey, the balſam with which we conclude all our repaſts; the divine balſam, which the preſent inhabitants of Europe affect to deſpiſe, and think unworthy their uſe. To *Julia* we are indebted for the wax which gives us a light equally bright and beautiful.

OF the hemp and flax which we gather every year, we make this linen cloth, cords, and nets, which you ſee.

I had

I had ſeen, one morning, a very large animal, that appeared to me to be a wolf; but it might have been ſome leſs ferocious creature. In this incertitude, I hid a quarter of mutton under a large net, and a bunch of different kinds of herbs. I faſtened a ſmall bell to the net, to give us notice when it fell; the bell rang, *Julia* ran.——You know the reſt of our hiſtory, from that moment which perfected all our felicity.

I thanked *Euphemon* for the entertainment he afforded me, by relating ſuch aſtoniſhing adventures. I was never weary of ſpeaking to him of them, and it gave him pleaſure to repeat thoſe occurrences that made the deepeſt impreſſion on my mind.

All this while my ſon amuſed himſelf, and played at our feet.——How charm-

charming is the ſeaſon of youth, ſays *Euphemon*; we have paſſed two hours with great earneſtneſs of mind; I in ſpeaking, and you in giving attention: the moſt important ſubjects I have related, are mere trifles to your ſon; he finds no pleaſure in any thing but in his little ſports, in ſtretching out his playful limbs, and aſſiſting the growth of Nature.

Let us admire the Divine wiſdom, which does not admit infants to behold any thing but what is immediately before their eyes; or to fear any danger but the preſent; having neither ſtrength nor means to avoid diſtant evils: they are not known to them till they are able to protect themſelves. We ought to inſtruct children by experiments, which might be, perhaps, painful to them, to fear dangers and to ſhun them: to ex-

poſe

poſe them to frequent falls, which, as they are ſo near the ground, will not be dangerous: we ſhould ſometimes let them uſe a knife; if they chance to cut themſelves, the wound will not be very deep, but the ſmart will be enough to make them circumſpect and attentive to what may hurt them: the more diligently we teach them the means of preſervation, the leſs their minds ſhould be incumbered with ſpeculative and laborious knowledge, which only changes their conſtitution, and often annihilates it before it is formed. A young man ſhould not ſtudy ſeriouſly the arts and ſciences, till he arrives at the age of twelve or thirteen.

I ſhould be concerned to have a young man arrive at that age, entirely ignorant of letters, and what is called education. I could only wiſh that, after having

ſhewed

ſhewed him, by a number of circumſtances, prudently applied, the neceſſity or utility of thoſe things which they wiſh him to learn, they ſhould inſtruct him in the true rudiments, and put him in a ſtate to purſue his ſtudies much further. I ſhould alſo wiſh, that, after having well ſounded his diſpoſition and his talents, they ſhould moderate the ardour with which he had been ſuffered to follow the bent of his own inclinations, and not give way to his impetuoſity before he arrives at the age I ſpeak of: ſooner, his ſpirits would become too violent, and exhauſt themſelves; later, they would not be ſufficient; his productions would be languid, would be cold. I alſo would wiſh to inſpire him early with the principles of religion; I ſay inſpire, for it is by the heart alone we ſhould become chriſtians, as it is by the heart we are honeſt, kind, benevolent,

lent, humane, &c. *Science inſpires us with pride; charity alone is praiſe-worthy*, ſays the Apoſtle. This language is not new to you, O my ſon; you now begin to read the ſcriptures, and I have the conſolation to ſee, that their divine precepts guide your heart.

THUS were we converſing when *Julia* came to acquaint us that dinner was ready. Neither *Euphemon* nor I thought the hour of dining ſo near: I had forgot every thing, I had even almoſt forgot *Julia*. Her preſence diſpelled the charm that held all my faculties ſuſpended; the old man looked at his daughter tenderly. My ſon played with as great earneſtneſs as we had been talking; but as ſoon as he perceived *Julia*, he threw away ſome herbs with which he had been playing, to run to her embrace; we embraced her in our turn, and followed. I loved

I loved my wife with that tranquil, that tender affection, which filled up the meaſure of my happineſs. Alas! I did not think this tenderneſs would become in the end, at leaſt for ſome time, my puniſhment.

Since the birth of my ſon, *Julia* had alſo brought me a daughter: ſhe made me the parent of two ſons and three daughters during the ten years that we lived in the iſland, without any other memorable events than thoſe I have mentioned, which are not unintereſting to ſenſible ſouls, who know how to ſet a proper value on them.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

FOR the ſpace of near fifteen years, *Euphemon and Julia* were happy in each other, in THE ISLAND OF PEACE; during ten years of which, I partook of, and augmented their happineſs. On the eighth day of April, in the year 1754, we perceived at a diſtance, a ſmall object, which I took for a floating tree: it appeared to me no larger than a midling bough; but I had long known, and even learned without a tutor, as I have before ſaid (Vol. I. page 132) the firſt principles of opticks; I ſaw *Euphemon* and *Julia* tremble, turn pale, look at each other, then at me; I ſaw tears gathering in their eyes.——Is it good or evil, cried *Euphemon*, that awaits us? what

what, ſaid I, is it not a tree? Ah! my ſon, cried *Euphemon*, this object is a thouſand times further from us, and conſequently a thouſand times larger, than it appears to you. At the ſame time he drew out a ſpying glaſs, which he always carried: he gave it to me, I looked, and ſaw a bark come towards us, under full ſail. He then viewed it, and returned the glaſs to me: I perceived that it appeared at leaſt five ſixths larger, than when I firſt looked at her. It was a ſhip. Let us not loſe time, ſaid *Euphemon*; it is certain this iſland has no mines, nor any other things that are eſteemed precious, ſo that we may hope they come not to diſturb the peace we enjoy. However, we muſt prepare to defend ourſelves; go both of you to the houſe, and barricade it; do you, my ſon, take the fire arms; and you, *Julia*, continue near him with your chil-

dren, and he will be invincible. I will go to the top of the rock, to obſerve their motions, and diſcover their deſigns. If I perceive any danger, I will endeavour to get back to you; if I ſhould not be able to reach it, without expoſing you to danger, I will take another rout, draw the enemy after me, and will at leaſt fall alone: I ſhall think myſelf too happy to periſh thus.——*Julia* and I caſt ourſelves at his feet; we embraced his knees: we entreated him not to leave us, nor expoſe himſelf to any dangers that we were not to partake with him; nor would we deſcend from the rock to protect our children, till he had promiſed that he would return ſoon, and defend himſelf or periſh with us.

He did not ſtay long; we ſcarce had aſſembled our children, bolted the doors and windows, and taken arms, when we heard

heard him exclaiming, and panting for breath; *Rejoice, rejoice! they are French!*

We ran immediately to embrace him: all his grand-children, even to the youngeſt, who yet liſped, joined us in loading him with careſſes; he ſtretched out his little hands, and ſmiled on him, and left his mother's arms to go and kiſs him. The good old man ſhed tears of affection; ah! my children, ſaid he, how delicious death would appear to me to day! What delight expands in my ſoul at this moment! I feel how tenderly I love you; I never before felt it in ſo lively a manner: as ſoon as I thought it neceſſary to be vigilant for our preſervation, I felt all the ſtrength, and all the activity of my youth return. I walked from the rock almoſt to the ſhore. My ſight ſtrengthened on a ſudden, I knew it to

be a French ſhip, and knew it at a greater diſtance than I ſhould have done ten years ago.——Let us go and offer our gueſts what little aſſiſtance we can procure them; they are French, they are our friends, our brothers. Alas! why are not all mankind friends? Why are they not brothers? I marched foremoſt with all the joy and celerity of an honeſt man, who is happy to have an opportunity of being uſeful. Part of the crew were already prepared to come on ſhore; they invited me by ſigns to advance. Had they even rejected my friendſhip, my joy was ſo great at ſeeing a number of men together, that I ſhould have gone through fire to join them. I then felt ſtrongly, how much we naturally love ſociety.——My father, my wife, and my children, followed me at a diſtance. As ſoon as they appeared, the crew ran to their arms, fearing there

might be many people in the iſland, which till then they had believed to be a deſart. Son, Son, cried the old man, *fear nothing, we are French, and there are no other inhabitants on the iſland.* I ran toward the ſhip, calling to them with all my force: *fear nothing, we are French, and there are no other inhabitants on the iſland.* They inſtantly laid aſide their arms, as they had taken them only to defend themſelves againſt an irruption.

Euphemon, *Julia*, and my children, arrived; they waited for them; they did not aſk me any queſtions: they ſaw by my air of admiration and exſtacy, that I was not uſed to ſuch wonders of art, and that all thoſe objects which preſented themſelves to my view, deprived me of the power of utterance. The captain aſked *Euphemon*, if it was true that we were the only inhabitants on the iſland?

Euphemon aſſured him that we were. He aſked him again, if we were all French, and looked earneſtly at me; I anſwered him, I am an Engliſhman; *Euphemon* had told me ſo, he knew it by the inſcription of which I ſpoke (*page* 53); I am an Engliſhman, but cloſely allied to France: (at the ſame time I ſhewed him *Euphemon*, *Julia*, and my children.) And what ought to ſatisfy you ſtill more, ſaid I, I am a citizen of the world, in the moſt extenſive ſenſe of the word. Are you an Engliſhman? anſwered he: perhaps it is you I came to ſeek; how long have you been here, and how have you lived? Believing that one could never have reaſon to repent of too great openneſs and ſincerity, which however ſometimes happens in the world, I began to anſwer his queſtions; informing him, that I had lived a long time here alone: that I afterwards found two other inhabitants, who taught me to ſpeak and to live in ſociety:

ſociety: theirs appeared delicious to me, eſpecially that of my *Julia*. She and I, are the ſtocks of thoſe young ſhoots that you ſee around us. You aſk me how long I have been in this iſland? I am thirty years old, and was only fifteen when I was brought hither; you may come aſhore, and be convinced by an inſcription. —— An inſcription, anſwered he, drawing a paper out of his pocket! does it not begin with theſe words? *On the 6th of May in the year* 1739, *was depoſited here in the hands of Nature, to be the ſubject of an experiment which may become uſeful.* Yes, anſwered I, it begins with thoſe words you have read, and ends thus; *Gaſpar Williams, born in England the* 11*th of July*, 1724: *he has never yet lived but in a wooden cage, ſhut up on all ſides, and had never yet ſeen any human creature, or heard the ſound of any voice, when he was*

left on this iſland. Is not this the contents of your paper? Yes, (replied he, with a harſh tone of voice, which I did not think I deſerved, and which he aſſumed purpoſely to try me) it is, and I come perhaps to take you away from this place, to command you to follow me, by order of a man that is your maſter.—Command me! anſwered I, in a voice trembling with rage, command me! A maſter!—— What is it you would ſay? I acknowledge no maſter but GOD.

FEARING the conſequences that might ariſe from my anſwer, for I felt that I had replied with too great warmth, and remembering what *Euphemon* had often told me, that men in ſociety are much to be feared, as they have many ways of vengeance; I ran and climbed up the next rock, but with out any ſettled plan, without

out even conſidering whether I ſhould return and defend myſelf in the houſe, or fly for refuge into the heart of the foreſt; they both ſeemed equally impracticable: by this laſt method, I could only ſave the leaſt part of myſelf; I muſt have left *Euphemon*, *Julia*, and my children, in the power of my enemies: I regarded what was going to happen, with the moſt terrible uneaſineſs.

EUPHEMON converſed with the captain for a ſhort time very compoſedly, after which, they went on board the ſhip, together with *Julia* and my children: the laſt of them was hardly got up the ſhip's ſide, when I, governed by fury, jumped up alſo; "Unworthy companions of "my liberty and my happineſs, you "then debaſe yourſelves, even to obey-"ing the maſters they ordain you! you

" deſerve that I ſhould forſake you; ne-
" verthelefs, I will follow you becauſe,
" I ſtill love you, but I will neither
" ſerve, nor obey any body."

You judge and determine with too great precipitation, my dear *Ariſtus*, ſaid *Euphemon* mildly; you muſt remember, that under the ſhade of thoſe lime-trees, which we ſee from hence, at the left hand ſide of the rock of God, I lately explained to you the laws of ſociety; and you were obliged to agree, that it is not having a maſter that makes one unhappy, but having occaſion for one. You may infer from this principle, that an honeſt man does not obey, properly ſpeaking, when his maſter exacts a juſt thing of him, ſince he would have impoſed this law upon himſelf, if he had had no maſter, and that ſhould his maſter require of him, more than he had a right

to

to exact, he might withdraw from him without rebelling, or offering violence to authority; or if he could not free himſelf from him, it is only through neceſſity he obeys: ſo that in whatever light it is ſeen, an honeſt man can have no maſter. You ſee, my friend, I remind you of your principles; employ them to moderate your tranſports.——Liſten attentively to me.

The captain of the ſhip has ſpoke to you in a ſevere tone; but you will pardon him when you come to know his motives, which you will hear ſhortly.

During this diſcourſe of *Euphemon's*, I looked ſteadily at a man who ſtood near the captain: at ſeeing him, I felt a tender ſenſation, of which I could not diſcover the cauſe; my eyes filled with tears, he obſerved them, for he looked

at me alſo very attentively; he threw himſelf into my arms, and ſaid, ſobbing, My ſon, you are reſtored to me, let us be for ever united: he embraced, and loaded *Euphemon*, *Julia*, and my children, with careſſes; then turning to me, ——I will take another opportunity to inform you, both of your hiſtory and mine. At preſent I will tell you only what paſſed on my arrival.——I came to ſeek for you in this iſland, where I believed you were alone; I was ſurpriſed to ſee at a diſtance ſo many perſons. This gave riſe to an idea which I communicated to the captain, to whom I had already ſpoke a great deal concerning you. I have ſeen my ſon, ſaid I, to the captain, ten years ago, without his having ſeen me, and I had the fortitude not to run to him, nor overwhelm him with careſſes, nor to bring him back to the ſociety of men. I had a mind that he

ſhould

ſhould continue for ten years longer, what I call his courſe of philoſophy. Perhaps the people with whom I ſee him, have made him loſe the benefit of his ſtudy; I fear it, and will try him. Let us firſt know if he has the noble pride of an Engliſhman, with which without doubt he was born, and which nature dare not undertake to deſtroy in thoſe minds, where ſhe meets it, but which may be weakened by too intimate a communication with leſs exalted ſouls. Speak to him with a haughty tone of voice, even with a threatening air, particularly if he underſtands you; or if he underſtands any of the European languages, as I preſume he does, unleſs he has met thoſe people very lately, with whom we ſee him: while you ſpeak to him, I will hide myſelf behind ſome ſailors, whom I ſhall place round you; for if he could ſee me, he would ſoon read in my eyes

that

that I am his father, and I ſhould not learn what I want to know.

Ah! my father, ſaid I, interrupting him, and taking him in my arms, how could you have liſtened to all my converſation with the captain, without making yourſelf known to me? How could you have ſuffered me to leap out of the ſhip, and fly from you, without ſtopping me, which you might have done ſo eaſily? It would have been ſufficient if you had called me your ſon; ah! how could you ſee me ten years ago, and not come to me?——How could I do all this? anſwered he coldly: as all other Engliſhmen would have done in my ſituation.—— But go, I pardon you freely for not conceiving how ſuch examples are poſſible. I am charmed that Nature, having left that noble ſpirit, which I have tranſmitted with my blood,

blood, that ſpirit which the French nation poſſeſs, as well as the Engliſh, has given you that cordial ſociability, which is ſo apparent in the French, and which the Engliſh hide under the maſk of indifference. What an admirable race of people would a mixture of the two nations make, if ever they could be united, as I hope they will by an eternal alliance.

Let us go on ſhore, continued he, to viſit your former habitation, and that which you now occupy with thoſe amiable friends. If you love their peaceful retreat, as I cannot doubt but you do, I conſent with all my heart to paſs the remainder of my life here along with you; I demand only that we make one voyage to Europe, that you may ſee at one comprehenſive view, human ſociety in all its extent. This ſpectacle is the laſt

laſt leſſon of philoſophy, which you ought to take. We will bring hither your brothers and ſiſters, if they chuſe to come and be happy with us. I know ſome true philoſophers who deteſt all kind of ſtate and oſtentation; they will gladly follow us, and we ſhall form a new republic, which ſhall not reſemble any that has hitherto exiſted; for we ſhall fix it on ſuch principles, as that it ſhall not ſtand in need of many laws; every virtue ſhall flouriſh and proſper, and every vice be ſuppreſſed, as it appears in the bud.

After this diſcourſe, in which my father ſeemed animated with a divine fire, we diſembarked with my family, and all the crew followed us.

That day, and the two ſucceeding, were days of rejoicing: they pitched tents.

tents for themſelves, and celebrated what they called my wedding: every part of the iſland was viſited, it reſounded with our tranſports. *Euphemon* recollected among the ſtrangers, two good and honeſt *Arteſians* his countrymen; they reſolved to return and live with us in the ISLAND OF PEACE, after having conducted thither their wives and their children.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

WHEN the captain had anſwered a thouſand queſtions, which *Euphemon* had eagerly aſked him concerning the great events of Europe, we divided into ſmall parties, till ſupper time. I conducted my father, my father-in-law, my wife and my children, to an agreeable retreat, where we could converſe without being interrupted; and my father, in a few words, related my hiſtory.

Our family, ſaid he, are not originally Engliſh; one of our predeceſſors named *Franchomme*, baniſhed himſelf in 1570, which was two years before the terrible maſſacre of *Saint Bartholomew*: he

he left the ſuburbs of *Senlis*, where his family had poſſeſſed and cultivated a large tract of ground, (ah! ſaid *Julia* to me, as ſhe preſſed my hand, he was a Frenchman): the epiſcopal ſee of *Senlis*, was then filled by a bigoted enthuſiaſt, a man much of the ſame turn as William Roſe, who was one of his ſucceſſors, in the reign of *Henry* III. Many reſpectable families embraced the proteſtant religion, becauſe the prieſts had rendered the ancient faith odious. Theſe families not having ſufficient ſtrength to defend themſelves, becauſe they were the feweſt in number, were obliged to quit France; thoſe were happy who did not continue there. *Franchomme*, his wife, and one ſon, who alone remained to him of five whom he had, came and ſettled within a few miles of London; they found lands there to cultivate, as well as in France. They enjoyed the free exerciſe

of

of their religion, tranquillity and freedom. They died ſome years after; and their ſon, who till then had thought only of being the comfort of their old age, married as ſoon as he had loſt them: he would gladly have married ſooner, which would have been a moſt effectual way of making his aged parents happy; but boiling with enthuſiaſtic rage againſt France and its religion, he was determined to quit even the name which his family had borne for many ages: and as he knew the changing his name would give great uneaſineſs to his parents, he waited till they ſhould cloſe their eyes in peace, that he might marry, and take the family name of his wife.

He was received with every mark of diſtinction and friendſhip in the family of *Williams*, who were, like his own, a race of excellent cultivators. I am deſcended from

from this *Williams*. One of his deſcendants, who was my father, was the firſt who propoſed to the Engliſh government, to let the traffick of corn be free, at leaſt to grant a free exportation, (for they were not convinced that any great advantages would reſult from it, and it is even now a doubtful queſtion.) He joined with ſome other perſons, who underſtood the ſubject, to ſolicit this great affair, and it paſſed according to their wiſhes in the year 1680. My father at that time was about thirty years old, and was thirty-five when *Lewis* XIV. by revoking the edict of Nantz, loſt above one hundred thouſand of his moſt uſeful and faithful ſubjects. Among thoſe that went to ſettle in England were two families, whoſe names ought to be equally dear to us both; theſe were the families of *Preval* and *Rouſſeau*;

Rouſſeau; the firſt had been long ſettled in Picardy, the other in Artois.

AMONGST the *Prevals*, there was a lovely girl whom my father admired, as much for her virtues as her perſonal charms. He took her for his ſecond wife, and I was the firſt fruit of this marriage. A friend of my father's, named *Philip Hudſon*, felt the ſame partiality for *Jean Tereſa Rouſſeau*; he married her, and had by her many children, amongſt whom was *Sophia*, who became my wife in my twenty-ſecond year.

I had ſeven children, of whom you are the youngeſt. I had obtained a promiſe from my wife, on the day of our marriage, that if ever we had more than ſix children, ſhe ſhould permit me to give all thoſe that might afterwards be born to us to *Nature*, and that inſtinct alone

ſhould guide them; you were the ſeventh and laſt; I have kept my word, and your actions inform me, I ſhould do wrong to repent.

THIS, my ſon, is what I have to inform you of, and this is my hiſtory. Your mother's panegyric is better expreſſed in her conſent to my requeſt, than by any words. Had ſhe been a modern wife, a woman of weak underſtanding, and leſs exalted ſentiments, ſhe could not have made the ſacrifice I required.

THAT my view, and the experiment I wanted to try, might in ſome meaſure be lawful, it was neceſſary to have the conſent and aſſiſtance of public power, which I eaſily obtained.

THE government ſaw that an experiment of this kind muſt turn to the advantage

vantage of human nature.——I hope it will, added he, embracing me; yes, my ſon, I hope you will reap the benefit of thoſe leſſons which *Nature* has given you: ſhe alone has inſtructed you in your youth; on her principles alone, is your mind formed. —— Come and convince men by your example, that they are born humane, affectionate, virtuous: that the moſt perfect education, is not that which gives them thoſe virtues and talents which excite admiration, but that which prevents their acquiring the vices of ſociety, that brings them neareſt to *Nature*, and truſts them in her hands, as I have done thee.——One thing was however wanting to compleat your education, natural as it has been; you have not lived with any one.—— Why had I no other children after you? I would have brought you together to this iſland, I would have continued here myſelf,

myſelf, to have obſerved you, and to have reſtrained you, when too lively paſſions had carried you away.

The reſpect with which my age could not have failed to inſpire you, would have been ſufficient to reſtrain you ſometimes, which was all that was neceſſary for me to do. Beſides, inſtinct would have informed you that I was your father, which title would have given me an authority over you, which you could not have reſiſted. I never would have had recourſe to language, I would have left you ignorant of this mode of communicating our ideas; this mode ſo eaſy, ſo admirable, and often ſo dangerous, which has only been introduced into human ſociety, as it has become depraved, but which ſince that time is become neceſſary, and will in the end perhaps procure the real happineſs which

nature alone cannot obtain for us, without this wonderful faculty, of which ſhe has only planted the bud in us, and left it to our care, our induſtry, to unfold and fructify.

It may eaſily be imagined, with what attention, what eagerneſs, what amazement, *Euphemon*, *Julia*, our children, and myſelf in particular, liſtened to my father; one may alſo imagine, that I aſked him many queſtions, which he anſwered with great candour; I think myſelf obliged to avoid giving this detail to my readers: I ſhall only relate one of my queries, and his reply; and that only becauſe they are cloſely connected with two events of the firſt part of my hiſtory.

I aſked him, or rather anticipated his anſwer, by ſaying, it doubtleſs was you then

then who pronounced thoſe words, which I ſhall never forget, *Let him alone*, when they would have kept my proviſions from me. You were alſo one of the three men, who brought me into this iſland; it was you who ſtaid behind the others, and often turned towards me, ſtretching out your arms; my heart told me ſo: it certainly was you, I cannot doubt it.——Yes, ſaid he, it was me; and to whom, beſides your mother and myſelf, could I have confided the care of you? One of us two, was always at your chamber door, from the moment any body approached the lodge *in* which we had ſhut you; at all other times, we kept the key of this chamber carefully. You were our ſon, and we wiſhed you ſhould be alſo the ſon of nature: judge how much we ought to love you with this double claim? Ah! if you had ſeen with what earneſtneſs we came ſe-

veral times each day to look at you, to obſerve you, through ſome ſmall openings we had made in the upper part of your lodge.——We ſhould never have forgiven ourſelves to have left you a ſingle inſtant in the power of our ſervants, however well aſſured we were of their punctuality in obeying our orders.——

We have had the ſame delicacy with regard to the reſt of our children, in their infancy; we have always believed, that it is only ſince men are more mercileſs than tygers, that they could be induced to leave in ſuſpicious and mercenary hands, children, who not poſſeſſing the power, cannot complain, when they are either neglected or ill uſed.——For the ſame reaſon, one ought alſo in humanity, not to truſt a horſe, or a dog, but in very ſafe hands.

My father had hardly ceaſed ſpeaking, when many of our companions came to tell us it was time to think of ſupper, (every body works in ſuch an iſland as ours, and therefore every one is happy.) We went with our amiable company of friends to prepare a feaſt, where there ſhould be little magnificence, conſequently much mirth. Every body, even the ſailors, who touched the happy ground which we inhabit, were become new men; they were not deficient even in politeneſs, though this was a point about which we were not very anxious.

The next morning we took a very long walk; we went almoſt round our iſland. We viſited the menagerie, the place where I had been taken in a net, my cage, the inſcription, the aſhes of my fire, that had been above ten years quenched, the cave wherein I ſlept, the

monument of my dream, and the tree of love, (which was grown very large) the rock of God, thoſe where I had heard the echo, particularly that which to my misfortune I had ſo long avoided, and laſtly, that from which we ſaw the ſhip arrive.

Two days paſſed in feaſts and rejoicings; at length we departed: we left *Euphemon* with three of our children; we embraced them weeping. We promiſed to the one, that we would return to make the evening of his life happy; and to the others, that we would haſten back to guide their youthful days: we left them peaceful, quiet, without any other pain than that of our abſence; whilſt we added to that of leaving them, all the dangers of the ſea, of the rocks, and of mankind. I did not now enjoy the balancing of the ſhip, as I did formerly

merly in my cage, from whence I was not ſenſible of the danger: We had a light gale, which terrified, as much as the horrible tempeſt of my firſt voyage had amuſed me, in thoſe moments, when I did not hear the plaintive cries of my affrighted companions.

JOURNALS of ſea voyages, and even of land, appear to me very uſeleſs: I made none of mine. I ſhortened this voyage, as much as I was able, in order to return to my dear retreat. I ſhall even ſhorten the account of it, and end it as ſoon as I can, by ſome obſervations on what I have ſeen, and purpoſe putting in practice in my iſland.

CHAP. XII.

ON arriving at my father's houſe, a farm in the country, (I take pride in making it known) we were received in the court-yard by many perſons, amongſt whom was my mother. Nature and love pointed her out to me; I threw myſelf into her arms——She ſtrained me tenderly to her boſom.——My brothers and ſiſters, whom perhaps I ſhould not have known, came to embrace me. ——This ſcene was ſo tender, ſo affecting, that it would be raſhneſs to attempt to deſcribe it! therefore I will not undertake it.

SOME days after my arrival, they brought me to the houſe of a true philoſopher,

loſopher, an old man retired from the court, and living happy on his eſtate, with his children, whoſe education he made his ſtudy and his pleaſure. He ſaid, among other things, for we converſed a long time together; "Formerly "I was only a ſubject, and often even "a ſlave; ſince I have lived here, I reign. "Ah! how pleaſing is my empire, both "to myſelf, and to thoſe over whom I "rule! thoſe children conſtitute my "court; theſe bees are my people; "and all thoſe peaceable animals ſeem "to congratulate themſelves that they "partake of my retirement."

CHAP. XIII.

I Remained but a ſhort time in England, notwithſtanding the tender ties that attached me to it; I wiſhed to ſee France, and from thence to return as ſoon as poſſible to my iſland. I began to regret it: the manners of men appeared to me more corrupt, and conſequently their evils greater than *Euphemon* had told me.

At ſight of the unfortunate, I ſuffered from ſympathy, from compaſſion, which was to ſuffer greatly: but I ſoon experienced more acute pains, as they were more direct and perſonal. I loved *Julia* too well; I had read with her in our iſland two or three tender romances; they

they were poiſons which were accidentally mixed with the uſeful things which were left with her father and her, when the pirates abandoned them.

My imagination, filled with this dangerous ſtudy, was particularly inflamed ſince I ſaw other women, whom I deſired to find always leſs amiable than *Julia*, and other men, whom I wiſhed ſhe ſhould find leſs amiable than me. The excluſive love which I had for her, roſe even to heroiſm; that is to ſay, to folly, and became the more troubleſome to her, as to love in ſuch a ſtyle, is to be jealous.

Business obliged my father to ſpend ſome time in another kingdom, before he could go to France. To my misfortune he was obliged to ſtay there longer than he intended.

In learning new cuſtoms and manners, I was to experience miſery: but I ought not to complain; I was to learn at the ſchool of indigence and captivity, a divine art, which is taught in no other; the art of forming a free and independant people.

My father had left us in a frontier town, where he was to have come, in a few days after, to take us with him; but he was arreſted and put in priſon, on account of an affair in which they ſuppoſed him concerned. Six weeks paſſed without our hearing from him (for they left him no means of writing); I knew not where to ſeek for him; beſides, there is no travelling without money, and he only left us ſufficient for fifteen days, imagining he ſhould not be abſent longer than eight or ten. So that we found ourſelves and our children obliged to live in an inn, without

without money, without friends, without any reſource.

They demanded payment of the money I owed them, and as I had nothing to ſatisfy them, they arreſted me.

Whilst I was detained, which happily laſted only a few days, and ended at my father's return, *Julia* and our children accepted, with all poſſible gratitude, the ſmall ſuccour that was moſt generouſly offered by one of our neighbours, who was almoſt as poor as ourſelves, and therefore felt our neceſſities the more ſtrongly.

CHAP. XIV.

AS ſoon as my father had obtained my liberty, Let us not loſe more time, ſaid he; let us go to *Paris*.—— What, anſwered I ſadly, muſt we yet go to another town? and a town the moſt tumultuous of the univerſe! Am I to ſee nothing but towns and priſons? Spare me a few days; permit *my heart and my eyes* to repoſe upon rural objects, though I ſhould remain a little ſhorter time at Paris! And what does it avail, if I ſhould ſtay leſs time there?——Let us go through Flanders; *Euphemon* has told me it is the fineſt country in the world; from thence he has marked my rout by Picardy. We ſhall find, between *Pont Saint Maxence* and *Senlis*, a village called

Fleurine; there I have promiſed myſelf a delicious retreat for ſome days; do not deny me this ſatisfaction. I will not refuſe it you, anſwered my father; it will be equally agreeable to me.

As ſoon as he had ſettled his affairs we departed: and after having croſſed Flanders and Picardy, we came to *Fleurine*.

This place is eleven leagues diſtant from *Paris*; it is ſurrounded on all ſides by the fine foreſt of *Hallete*, which is croſſed by a thouſand roads drawn by a line. One of the greateſt men of the laſt age, the Czar *Peter*, called this foreſt a garden: he found few ſo beautiful. Art ſcarce appears in it; none of the charms of nature are deſtroyed; it only places them in a ſtronger light, and increaſed their genuine lovelineſs.

THE gardens of the Emperor of China are juſtly admired; they are a miniature of the univerſe, and an exact imitation of nature, without any ſymmetry or apparent order. The garden of which I ſpeak, is yet more admirable, both for its extent and infinite variety. It is divided into hamlets, villages, and even cities: the river Oiſe is a ſuperb canal that runs along its borders, and bounds it in many places. *Fleurine* is one of thoſe delightful hamlets. The pure and balmy air which one reſpires here, particularly in the higheſt parts of this vaſt woody incloſure, renders the men more chearful, more healthy, more vigorous; the women more beautiful, more lively, more amiable: beauty there wears a thouſand forms; I have ſeen it tender, I have ſeen it playful, which I prefer; I have particularly ſeen there, that Greek and Roman ſtyle of beauty, of which the model

model becomes more rare than ever in France, becauſe they have ceaſed to live in a manner to form robuſt and healthful bodies. We ſeem to be ignorant, the only beauty which ought to be the object of love, is that which indicates ſtrength and the moſt glowing health.

We paſſed fifteen days very agreeably at *Fleurine*, in a ſmall houſe which had all the ſimplicity of a cottage, with the elegance of more poliſhed habitations.

This, after the pleaſure that I had enjoyed in ſeeing my mother and my family, is the part of my travels which I recollect with moſt pleaſure. My father, accuſtomed to tumults, to the pomp of courts and cities, found this rural abode ſo pleaſing, that when it was neceſſary to depart,

depart, he had as much regret to quit it as I had.

We came to the houſe of an old friend of *Euphemon*'s, named *Dorbay*, whom we had informed of our arrival, and who was come with his wife *Sophia* to meet us. I cannot explain the pleaſure I felt, on arriving at their houſe; all there breathed order, tranquility, virtue, and happineſs.

Tame birds came fluttering and chirping round us to welcome our arrival. Some dogs of a middling ſize, and two lambs, which played together in the court, came alſo to careſs us, as if we had been long acquainted. All in this houſe partook of the cordiality of their amiable maſters.

We were ſcarce got out of the porch, when the children ſurrounded us, and gave us a thouſand careſſes. They particularly did not neglect to embrace *Dorbay* and *Sophia*. You would have ſaid they had not ſeen them for a year, and it was ſcarce an hour ſince they had parted from them. The laſt that embraced them, were their own (they had uſed them to it) when it was their turn. I eaſily perceived it; I ſaw the unaffected tear of tenderneſs in the eyes of *Dorbay* and *Sophia*, and it was with difficulty I could reſtrain mine; I adored in ſilence the power of Nature and of Love.

You ſee, ſaid *Dorbay*, my riſing family: I have a ſon; with him I educate five others, whoſe fathers unfortunately are too much employed, to be able to attend to their education themſelves. My wife has two daughters; ſhe has taken four

four others. We educate this little flock together, with all the wiſe precautions which the difference of ſex requires. We form them at preſent for the ſoft bonds which Hymen may one day bind faſter, and make them eternally happy.

THIS, in two words, is my plan of education, and the manner in which I execute it. I perſuade my children they are ſubject to me, and I often convince them by experiments; but I take care not to abuſe my power. I ſhew them, that whatever I require of them, proceeds either from neceſſity or utility. I warn them that they muſt be dependant all their lives, and that they will always have maſters. By charging them with a light yoke, I make them capable of carrying one more weigthy.

I make

I make but few decrees, and I do not make even them without having conſidered them maturely: but they are irrevocable: which they know, and they never oppoſe my will.

With me the ſmalleſt rewards are for talents, and the greateſt for virtues; to be humane, benevolent, temperate, moderate, to know how to excell all the world in making themſelves beloved, are ſo many titles to gain all the prizes, all the honours. The faults of the paſſions, or of the temper, are puniſhed only with a light diſgrace; but my pupils are made the object of public horror, when they have committed a crime in cold blood, or with malignity. I know all the evils that can be produced by paſſion or anger. I attack this vice wherever I find it: I uſe ſeverity and ſoothing, and I never quit it till I have rooted it out; my

greateſt attention, even in public chaſtiſements, (and theſe happen very ſeldom, and are very light) is not to make ſelf-love revolt, or reduce them to deſpair, for otherwiſe it would be to break, inſtead of bending, the grand ſprings of virtue.

As there is no crime unpardonable in itſelf, becauſe there is no vicious cuſtom but what may be corrected, and conſequently deſerve pardon, I puniſh the guilty; but as I have juſt ſaid, I do not drive them to deſpair; I bring them back, on the contrary, into the path from which they have ſtrayed. There is no child truly incorrigible; it is in a more advanced age that we ceaſe to have the power of reſiſting inclinations which we have long followed.

THE diviſion which I make of the day is very ſimple; and as it is not overcharged with avocations, it is every day the ſame: Sunday is our only day of abſolute reſt.

THE morning and the evening a ſhort prayer is reſpectfully pronounced by each child in its turn, and accompanied with ſome reflections, which I add.

HALF an hour's exerciſe of the memory, which they employ to learn the firſt principles of religion, the eaſieſt of *La Fontaine*'s Fables, and a little Geography and Chronology.

Two hours in the morning, and as many in the afternoon, to learn to read and write; afterwards to learn French, Greek, Latin, &c. and the Elements of Geometry.

THE

THE remainder of the day is divided between ſome agreeable reading, recreations, muſic, dancing, and other exerciſes of the body; which, with frugality, and the choice of their food, makes diſeaſes as ſeldom in my houſe, as among the ſavages, or among thoſe animals which have the happineſs to live according to Nature.

WHILST the boys uſe ſtrong exerciſe, whilſt they dig the land, carry loads proportioned to their ſtrength, &c. the girls are inſtructed in ſewing, ſpinning, houſewifery, &c.

THIS is briefly what *Dorbay* told me: I was enchanted with all he ſaid, particularly as he ſpoke without exaggeration; for I ſaw every moment that he executed in my preſence all he had related.

How

How I ſhould have regretted not being able to paſs the remainder of my days with him, if I had not been engaged by ſo many ties to my iſland; and if I had not conſidered that it would be advantageous to ſociety, that I ſhould practice in the new world, that perfect ſyſtem of education, of which I had found the model in the old!

The evening that we arrived at *Dorbay*'s houſe, we went to walk in the foreſt. My children cried with joy as they entered it. This ſight alſo drew ſome tears from *Julia*, and from me. Neither my father, nor our hoſts, had any difficulty to gueſs the cauſe of our tears; they were melted by them: two friends who lived together were our hoſts; one of the two, without having any of that ſavage miſanthropy which cannot be avoided with too much care,

piqued himſelf on being ſomewhat ſingular, and proved well that he had reaſon to be ſo. He had acquired, by misfortunes, a kind of philoſophical indifference. He had undertaken to procure himſelf a ſolid happineſs which ſhould neither depend on the world, or on fortune, and he had ſucceeded.

By what I am going to relate of his manner of living, the reader will judge whether we could leave him without regret.

He went to bed very early, and roſe with the day, which was at that time between four and five o'clock. As ſoon as he was up, he went either to a hill to ſee the ſun riſe, which made him paſs a quarter of an hour agreeably; or if it was dark weather, he began half an hour ſooner, to ſerve what he called his friends,

friends, the animals of his lower court: he had tamed them, they came to him to be fed as ſoon as he entered. This amuſement, which laſted about half an hour, was followed by a walk with his pupils, if it was fine weather, that is to ſay, if it did not rain a torrent; for he allowed no other to be rain. If it rained too much to go out, he had a concert with his friends; he afterwards employed one or two hours either at work in his garden, or making tiles with the good people of his neighborhood, after which he came to breakfaſt with a good appetite, which he never wanted. Breakfaſt was followed by the childrens work, which laſted two hours in the morning, and as many after dinner.

After this exerciſe and dinner, *Dorbay* employed an hour, or an hour and a half, in reading ſome amuſing books.

The time after dinner was not leſs than double that of the morning: as for the reſt, *Dorbay* did not ſubject himſelf to any rule, but for the childrens exerciſe: he would ſay, that, for the remainder, he loved not to know the minute before what he was going to do, and that he always did what pleaſed him moſt; but without deſign, he commonly found himſelf doing the ſame things, at the ſame hours.

One day as he related ſome of his hiſtory to us at dinner, he told us that formerly he had wrote ſeveral volumes; that this ſublime art had given him pleaſure, and ſtill pleaſed him; but that in ſome reſpects he congratulated himſelf, that he had not excelled, becauſe he remarked that even the beſt books did not much haſten the progreſs, either of reaſon or virtue; that he had preferred educating

cating ſome children of different ranks; that he would educate them without pedantry, in the laws of Nature, Religion, Society, all which were rarely conciliated; and that thoſe well educated children, having their minds adorned with a variety of agreeable talents, began to ſpread themſelves in cities and the neighbouring countries, where they had already done more good, than would have been done without them, by the beſt church-library; but that this, aſſiſted by theſe living interpreters, became every day more uſeful.

We often diſcourſed together on education; I had this object much at heart, being worthy of every body's attention; I begged *Dorbay* to give me ſome good inſtructions upon it; he gave me ſome, which ſhall be added in the following part of my memoirs; he then ſaid to me,

" I educate my children in common
" with ſome others, but I am careful
" that being together, they are always
" in the preſence of me or my wife, or
" ſome other perſon on whom I can de-
" pend.

" I paſſed ſome years alone, in my
" dear retirement, without marrying,
" without forming this little republic,
" whoſe happineſs I now conſtitute, and
" who conſequently make mine. I knew
" that they would not eaſily allow the
" change, which I ſhould make in edu-
" cation; but I alſo knew that truth de-
" monſtrated by experiments, has great
" weight on the mind even of the moſt
" obſtinate; I therefore undertook to
" make the experiment. The narrow
" limits of my fortune, was unfortunately
" that of the good I wiſhed to have
" done: I began with taking charge of

" one

" one child of ſix years old, of promiſing
" abilities, but his education had been
" greatly neglected. I corrected him
" with reſolution, but without paſſion
" or ill will, and I rendered him by de-
" grees, a docile amiable child, whom
" I now love as my ſon.

" FINDING myſelf in a ſituation to en-
" large my houſe a little, and to bear
" greater expences, I did not ſeek for
" happineſs in luxury and tumultuous
" pleaſures. I calculate ſufficiently to
" know that it is not in multiplying
" wants, that we augment happineſs;
" I knew it was to be found in diſ-
" intereſted friendſhip, in love without
" ſatiety, and in generous acts of hu-
" manity and virtue. I live near a great
" road that leads to Paris; and I had
" often heard the plaintive cries of
" thoſe unfortunate innocents, whom

" nurſes, poor, and conſequently care-
" leſs and dirty, conduct to Paris, or
" bring from thence in carts. This
" ſight drew tears from me; I lamented
" yet more bitterly, when I happened
" to hear the voice of an almoſt expir-
" ing infant, whoſe wretched mother is
" reduced to the dreadful neceſſity of
" not daring to acknowledge it, becauſe
" it is the offspring of forbidden love.
" This ſad victim of the neceſſary ſeve-
" rity of the laws, this poor child, who
" is not guilty of its own birth, bears
" all the puniſhment: ſcarce has it
" opened its eyes to the light, before it
" has ſprinkled a road of forty or fifty
" leagues with its tears. Women of the
" lower claſs, and who for this reaſon
" have not the hardneſs of heart, which
" is acquired in the polite world, unco-
" ver their breaſts to give food to the
" little unfortunates as they paſs. Each

appears

" appears its mother; the babe clings
" to her boſom; they drag it from her,
" ſhe kiſſes it, ſhe mingles her tears
" with thoſe of the unhappy infant,
" which is torn from her arms.

" THIS picture preſented itſelf in the
" moſt diſmal colours to my view every
" time I ſaw theſe infants paſs. I in-
" tereſted myſelf for them, and procured
" them relief; I found friends to hu-
" manity, whoſe fortune put it in their
" power to lend aſſiſtance to the project
" I had formed to open my houſe for
" this ſacred depoſite, the foundling
" hoſpital at Paris being overcharged.
" A ſum, not very conſiderable, was ſuf-
" ficient to put me in a condition to
" carry on this good work, and ſince
" my fortune has increaſed, I do not
" divide with any one ſo pure, ſo delicate
" a pleaſure; and what makes it ſtill

" greater, is, that I ſee my example " followed by many of my neighbours.

" Absolute maſter of thoſe children " whom one can make happy with im- " punity, becauſe nobody reclaims them, " I made on them my firſt experiments " with the moſt flattering ſucceſs. It " was in vain that I ſaid till then, *the* " *Engliſh are ſtrong, vigorous, handſome,* " *becauſe from the time they are born, they* " *are bathed in cold water; becauſe they* " *do not roll them in ſwadling clothes, nor* " *ſtays, nor any of thoſe ſhackles that de-* " *ſtroy us:* they had always made me " this plauſible anſwer; *the Engliſh are* " *Engliſh, and we are French.* I edu- " cated theſe children in my own way, " I freed them from all kinds of diſeaſes; " at the age of ſix months they were " firm, gay, lively, and even run alone: " had they been accuſtomed to it, they " would

" would at ſeven or eight years old,
" have out run a hare in the courſe;
" I then dared to ſay, as I ſhewed them
" to people who came to my houſe,
" BEHOLD FRENCH MEN."

THE account which *Dorbay* gave, filled me with joy; I thanked him: we ſtayed ſome days longer at his houſe, and at length quitted him with all poſſible regret. He conducted us to *Senlis*; our diſcourſe during our journey, which we made on foot, was by turns, ſerious and gay.

CHAP. XV.

WE reached Paris: in this city, the centre, the abridgment, and the tomb of Europe; a tomb that muſt be viſited, becauſe it is ſuperb, but where it is improper to remain long, (at leaſt till new circumſtances make the abode there more healthy and agreeable), my firſt attention was to know, at leaſt ſuperficially, the uſeful and agreeable arts, their origin, their progreſs; at what time, and under what circumſtances, they had been more or leſs in repute with the different nations, and what effects they had produced. This hiſtorical knowledge, is a thermometer which points out the degree of utility, or the danger of ſuch or ſuch arts, and which conſe-

conſequently gives warning of the precautions that are neceſſary on admitting them into a ſtate, and the bounds that ſhould circumſcribe them.

The firſt things ſhewn me in England, and elſewhere, were the churches and cathedrals. I had admired their ceremonies, equally ſimple and majeſtic; I had reſolved to introduce them into my iſland, and have begun to execute my project. I had alſo ſeen military exerciſes; they gave me at the time great pleaſure, but I was penetrated with horror, when I knew what was the purpoſe of theſe exerciſes. However, I will, leſt they ſhould be wanted, train up a band of youthful warriors in my iſland. May arms, for the future, never be in the hands of our children, but for an amuſement and ſport!

TILL I came to Paris, I was utterly ignorant of the forms of law proceedings, of debtors, creditors, bonds, executions, &c. I ſhould have been as well pleaſed never to have known them, and never to have gone out of my iſland.

EUPHEMON had recommended to *Julia*, to ſhew me all the evils of ſociety before the advantages; and my father, who thought in the ſame manner, took care to ſhew me the different artiſts, whoſe trades are either diſagreeable or dangerous. He had carried me to the hoſpitals, where the rich imperfectly contribute to the relief of the poor, to whom they have given this neceſſary aſylum.

HE did not bring me into the priſons, I was already too well acquainted with them.

JULIA

JULIA reſolved I ſhould ſee a convent of nuns; ſhe knew this ſight would affect me, but it was neceſſary ſhe ſhould not hide any thing from me. She conducted me into a parlour; the firſt object that ſtruck me there, was a turning box, like that of my cage. Ah! cried I, embracing *Julia*, ah! muſt it be that this machine, which ſo long ſerved to nouriſh a being deſtined to live with thee, muſt ſerve alſo——The word expired on my lips, I turned my head, and went away.

So many ſad objects diffuſed in my ſoul a melancholy which deſtroyed me. I wiſhed to return to the ISLAND OF PEACE, into the arms of *Euphemon* and our children. I wiſh it as much as you, anſwered *Julia*, but your courſe of philoſophy is not yet compleat; take courage; the part that remains is the moſt

pleaſing; I have intentionally reſerved it to the laſt.

THE next day (and we had then been but four days in *Paris*) ſhe told me I muſt ſee the edifices, the opera, pictures, and a thouſand other capital works which all Europe admired. I aſked her if ſhe would accompany me; ſhe promiſed me ſhe would: ſo much the better, anſwered I, for in not ſeeing you there, I might not admire what charms all Europe: ſhe anſwered me, that I began to form good ideas; that I did not take the French ſtyle badly.——She ſaw this made me uneaſy, and added, preſſing my hand—No, my friend, it is the ſtyle of nature.

DURING the ſhort ſtay we made in Paris, I wearied myſelf much, in always trying to be amuſed. My wife, and the children, were alſo wearied. I had a

wild air, the air of a man out of his proper place, who fears all, diſtruſts all; I was aukward, and for ever at a loſs. I had not the air of the world; my behaviour formed as ſtrange a contraſt as my manners, with thoſe of other men. I diſpleaſed them, and they did not diſpleaſe me leſs. The reader may eaſily judge, and will judge ſtill better by the ſequel of my memoirs; where he will ſee the picture of myſelf, that this muſt have been the caſe.——We at length departed, and it gave me the moſt lively joy.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVI.

ENRICHED with ſome knowledge, and particularly that which was neceſſary to eſtabliſh laws that were neither unjuſt nor inſufficient; that were ſimple, and conſequently ſubject to very few inconveniencies; I departed for the ISLAND OF PEACE, with my wife, my children, my father, my mother, almoſt all their relations and dependants, and the two *Arteſienne* families, whom I mentioned. We had continued in France and England about a year.

I do not ſay where my iſland is ſituated. True philoſophy begins to ſpread in Europe; a tide of inhabitants would flow in from every country to this iſland: I

ſhould

ſhould wiſh it, becauſe one ought to wiſh happineſs ſhould expand and multiply, did I not fear that falſe philoſophers, and men of degenerate principles, would come and deſtroy my work.——As to other points, perhaps there would not be much to apprehend; for the abundance, and the continuation of labour that produces this abundance, maintains among us pure manners, and ſolid virtues, which nothing can change or corrupt. We lead lives as innocent, and our happineſs is as undiſturbed, as that of the inhabitants of Virginia.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVII.

HITHERTO I have thought it neceſſary, that *Ariſtus* ſhould be his own hiſtorian; in order to render the account of his ſolitude, his firſt ideas, and firſt ſentiments, more ſimple and intereſting. In order to deſcribe him in the midſt of his family, and of his little republic, it is equally neceſſary to change the ſtyle; it would be indecent for him to give himſelf the praiſe he is about to deſerve. The narrator muſt therefore now appear, muſt celebrate his hero, and ſay, or at leaſt inſinuate at each line of his hiſtory, *Happy thoſe who follow this model, ſingular as it is; for its ſingularity is as much*

its panegyric, as a juſt ſatyr on our manners.

The rural, and conſequently pleaſing, deſcriptions that are interſperſed in this volume, ſhould not be conſidered as foreign to my object. They paint almoſt all the charms of nature, in the glowing colours of poetry. The pleaſures, the ruſtic labours, (and theſe laſt are alſo pleaſures) form a varied ſucceſſion of delightful pictures, calculated to inſpire mankind with a taſte for agriculture, and lead them to happineſs by the road of pleaſure.

On his arrival in his iſland, with his family, and the other planters that had joined them, *Ariſtus* aſſiſted them in building huts, or rather agreeable houſes, of ſmall extent, and ſtill leſs elevation; they were well laid out, and by no means ſump-

ſumptuous: eſſential qualities for the dwelling of happineſs.

WHILST they worked at theſe firſt habitations, *Ariſtus* conceived a beautiful plan, which he inſtantly put in execution. (It is very eaſy to do good in a country where there is yet no evil.)

" THERE is no doubt, ſaid *Ariſtus* to " his companions, but that we ſhall be " happy in this iſland; but there exiſts " in other countries, unhappy men, who " rendered envious by misfortunes, per- " haps might attempt to make a de- " ſcent on our iſland, drive us out " and deſtroy us: beſides, as the in- " creaſe of our families will make a " rapid progreſs, while we enjoy the " ſweets of innocence, peace, and plenty; " we muſt confine ourſelves a little, that " we may not ſoon be obliged to detach

" colonies

" colonies from us. Let us begin from
" this preſent time to limit ourſelves,
" without too great reſtraint; for the
" firſt law in nature is, that all animals
" ſhould breathe and move in a large
" ſpace. Let us build a town, not far
" from the ſea, on the ſide on which we
" landed: that ſide is moſt acceſſible,
" and therefore it is there we are to
" dread being attacked. This town will
" have a rural ſituation, and will be
" worthy to belong to the ISLAND OF
" PEACE. All our youth, whom we
" ſhall train to the uſe of arms, which
" alas! is become a neceſſary evil, ſhall
" repair to the ramparts, if we ſhould
" be invaded. There they will fight for
" their wives, for their children, for
" their parents, and they will be invin-
" cible."

THIS

THIS ſcheme was univerſally approved: they built a town, which I am going to deſcribe, and they called it ARISTIA.

IT is built in the form of a ſquare, ſurrounded with walls and gates, a little lower than the houſes. On the country ſide, the walls ſupport a platform, which is itſelf ſupported on the ſide of the town, on pillars at the opening of each gate, and on arches between one gate and another. This platform or terraſs ſurrounds the town. To the ſouth, the pillars and arches, inſtead of being (as in the other three aſpects) on the ſide of the town, are on the contrary ſide, ſo that in walking one may enjoy the ſun.

THAT part of the wall oppoſite each arch, is lined with a large table of black marble, on which is wrote in gold letters, the principal events of the republic: each

each table is filled in ſucceſſion; and after many ages, if this incloſed ſpace ſhould be inſufficient, they will build another a little further off, within a glacis of about two hundred feet wide, which muſt divide the town from the rampart; its gates to correſpond with thoſe of the town.

At Aristia they follow the wiſe policy of ancient Rome: the few public buildings that it contains, are plain but ſpacious, ſufficiently ornamented, and unchangeable. In the private houſes there is nothing to be found, but what is convenient and pleaſant. They are all uniform, and all fronting the ſouth; for after having determined (as might be done every where) which is the moſt advantageous diviſion and ſituation, it is abſurd to change our opinion in an object of

this importance, and to build houſes as we do, ſo unlike each other.

THE public monuments at ARISTIA are, 1ſt. two ſtatues, one repreſenting *Ariſtus*, crowned with oak and laurel, holding a ſpade for a ſceptre, and having at his feet a dog and a deer, the firſt companions of his ſolitude. The other repreſents *Julia*, crowned with myrtle, holding in her right hand, one of her children, and ſhewing it with the other, in which ſhe holds a ſheep-hook, the place where the hut was ſituated in which ſhe dwelt with her father. 2d. Allegorical ſtatues, repreſenting peace and plenty. Each of the four pedeſtals is compoſed of ſhells and pebbles, from whence iſſues water on all ſides, which falls into a baſon. 3d. A church, near which are the houſes of the prieſt, the phyſician, and the ſurgeon. 4th. A tribunal of juſtice. 5th.

Two

Two ſchool-houſes, one for boys, the other for girls. 6th. Spacious work-ſhops, deſigned for different manufactories of iron, wood, clay, weaving, &c. Each houſe has its offices. The covered galleries which ſurround the town, are agreeable walks in all ſeaſons; there they engrave on tables of black marble, the kalendar of the ISLAND OF PEACE.

To the north, between the town and the rampart, is a public burying-ground; where is ſeen, under different forms, the ſymbols of immortality, which have nothing ſad or frightful in their appearance.

CHAP. XVIII.

IN the intervals between his fields, *Ariſtus* has planted a great variety of trees, particularly oak, elm, and beech; he prefers foreſt trees to underwood; he would not have any of this ſort: he finds that it not only incumbers and crouds the ground, but impoveriſhes it; and that this kind of huſbandry is only adapted for men who are preſſed by avarice or want; and who do not underſtand their real intereſt. I need not ſay how uſeful foreſt trees planted through the fields are. Another motive that engaged *Ariſtus* to planting, has been that his companions and his flocks might have an agreeable ſhelter. I wiſh, ſaid he, one day with enthuſiaſm, ſhewing them to a friend,

friend, as CYRUS formerly ſhewed the trees which he had planted with his own hands; "I wiſh that after I ſhall be no "more, my ſoul may ſtill dwell among "the tender leaves of thoſe trees; that it "may be the ſoft zephyr that agitates "them; that it may be the animated "air which fills the rural pipes of future "ſwains: the melodious vehicle of love "to the deſcendants of our ſhepherds."

IN the agreeable ſeaſon of lilachs and roſes, they plant ſlips of theſe ſhrubs in ſmall caſes, or in pots filled with earth, and place them in the chimnies. There is no entering into any of the apartments of theſe houſes, without being delighted with the fragrance and refreſhing air, the ruſtic elegance and ſimplicity which ſurrounds you. This ſweet ſimplicity, the moſt powerful charm of nature, is that which *Ariſtus* takes the greateſt

pleaſure in diffuſing through his houſe. He thinks it abſurd to torment and ruin one's ſelf with collecting much furniture: he eſteems it an incumbrance.

He has made it a rule to have in each apartment of his houſe, only a few chairs, a bed, a plain waxed table, a bureau of the ſame, and a looking-glaſs. A few plates and diſhes, very few clothes, no ſuperfluities: ſuch is his ſyſtem. His greateſt magnificence (and that which is worthy of a true philoſopher) conſiſts in a ſmall collection of inſects and birds, which he has dried, prepared, and ſorted according to their different kinds of beauty; he preſerves them in boxes, or glazed caſes, which are ornaments to the chimnies and tables. A Frenchman who came to his iſland, went to ſee him, and paid him a compliment on the order and choice of this collection. It is rather,

anſwered

anſwered *Ariſtus* with rapture, it is rather upon the choice of this order that I am to be congratulated (ſhewing him the ſhepherds and villagers houſes, which were arranged round his). "Each of theſe "handſome houſes, is inhabited by a fa-"mily whom I make happy, and of whom "I eſteem myſelf the father; they are "beneficial ſtreams that flow in this "iſland, that make it fertile and charm-"ing; and I have the ſatisfaction to "feel that I am the ſource of theſe "ſtreams."

"In theſe huts, under theſe humble "roofs, flouriſh, and are brought up, "youths that are gay, playful and in-"nocent."

"All thoſe children have been "taught muſic along with mine; I hear "every moment acclamations of joy,

" melodious ſounds, which re-echo in
" my heart.——My conſcience, my wife,
" my children, and my land, conſtitute
" my happineſs."

CHAP.

CHAP. XIX.

ARISTUS goes early to bed, becauſe he has worked hard, and is ſure that he ſhall not be long awake. He ſleeps well, being fatigued; he awakes, and riſes early, becauſe he has ſlept ſoundly.

AFTER having, with his family, worſhipped God, of whom all things around remind him, (becauſe they are not the works of men, but thoſe of *Nature*, which he ſees inceſſantly:) he goes alſo in ſerene weather, to pay homage to the moſt beautiful, and moſt perfect being next to GOD, the SUN.

He riſes long before the ſun in the months of June, July and Auguſt; becauſe then all his people begin to work long before the Aurora appears, and they reſt from labour, from about half an hour after ten to three; ſome in the houſes, others under trees; for he does not allow either the men or animals, whoſe happineſs he has undertaken to promote, to work in exceſſive heat. They therefore bring the cattle from their paſtures, at two o'clock in the morning, and begin at that hour to work, both in the fields and in their houſes, till half an hour paſt ten, except while they are at breakfaſt, which is between ſeven and eight o'clock, and in the afternoon they return and labour from about four to nine. The ſignal, to begin and leave off work, is given by a flouriſh of French-horns, which is repeated from diſtance to di-

ſtance, and is in an inſtant communicated through this charming republic.

It is near ten, before they lie down, conſequently the night laſts only four hours; but of the five hours reſt, of which I have ſpoken, they employ only about three in ſleep. The firſt half hour, they paſs in eating, without much preparation, and without ceremony, ſome vegetables, meat, cream, cheeſe, and fruit; and conclude their repaſt, with drinking a few glaſſes of wine. I muſt obſerve, that the reaſon why the people of the country drink bad wine, which cauſes ſourneſs, and makes them diſtempered, is, that they often drink to exceſs, which is the height of beaſtlineſs and madneſs.

The happy members of the republic of Aristia, after having made a plain

frugal meal, ſleep tranquilly two or three hours. Thoſe who firſt riſe, converſe quietly together, without diſturbing the others; and work at ſome little handy work; the women ſow, knit, and make laces; the men make nets, ſnares, &c. The women are always ſeparate from the men; the motive of this requires ſome explanation.

EUROPEAN manners, very different from thoſe of the inhabitants of *Ariſtus*'s republic, are ſuch, that the ſociety of men is leſs dangerous in ſome reſpects, than that even of women, which is no great panegyric of our manners. Women have little elſe to fear from men, but the weakneſs of love; with their own ſex they become artful, ſlanderous, jealous of their beauty, dreſs, &c. Education guards againſt thoſe evils at ARISTIA.

They ſuffer the boys and girls to be together, till about the age of fifteen. *Ariſtus* and *Julia*, who are the guardians of their innocence, diligently attend to them. They then ſeparate them, till the time of their marriage, becauſe the ſociety of the two ſexes, from the time that love inſpires them, becomes either inſipid or licentious. To conſider licentiouſneſs merely as a philoſophic ill, it would give reaſon to apprehend a decay of the ſpecies. With regard to romantic love, which deſtroys the minds of three fourths of the young people, it is a moral diſeaſe and ſubtle poiſon to youth.

Aristus prevents all theſe evils, by ſeparating the boys from the girls, as ſoon as he finds they cannot ſee each other without danger; by this he prevents the boys from becoming effeminate, and the girls from being mad with

with vanity, coquetry, and a desire to please. Their attire is made neat; to what purpose would an extravagant dress serve? They know that the young men only see them at a distance, or as they pass. The girls play together, and boys by themselves in their moments of recreation. Their pleasures are less keen, less lively, but much more sweet, more tranquil. Neither jealousy, uneasiness, nor regret, disturb them.

CHAP. XX.

THE moſt important and favourite occupation of *Ariſtus* and *Julia*, conſiſts in the education of children. This neceſſary care, ſo painful to thoſe who live in the world, and ſo little attended to, becomes their delight as well as their glory, becauſe they are ſenſible of its importance, and feel all the conſcious ſatisfaction of having fulfilled their duty. I ſhall here annex a few principles of *Ariſtus*'s ſyſtem of education, in order to give a ſlight idea of their manner of executing this pleaſing taſk.

1ſt. NATURE has deſtined us to be free and happy; conſequently our liberty muſt

muſt not be reſtrained, nor our happineſs rendered difficult.

2d. NATURE, that has ſupplied the ſmalleſt animals with all that is neceſſary to their happineſs, doubtleſs, has treated us as kindly: conſequently, it is unreaſonable to ſeek abroad, for means to preſerve and augment that felicity, which ſhe has certainly planted in us.

3d. NATURE, when we are not wiſe enough to prevent her, ſuffers us to vegetate a long time in peace, before ſhe unfolds in our hearts thoſe paſſions which are pernicious to us; conſequently it muſt be dangerous to ripen thoſe paſſions, by conveying the light of ſcience too early to our ſouls, which never fails to kindle the flame of deſire.

But *Nature*, which has certainly formed us for ſociety, ſince the love of it is manifeſt in us, even before we are acquainted with its pleaſures, wiſhes us to begin early to be humane and ſociable, to be citizens, not of a particular country, but of the world. Conſequently they ſhould give us early (but from time to time, and with long intervals) the firſt notions of morality, philoſophy, and policy.

4th. Nature in giving us an elevation of ſoul, perſpicuity of mind, harmony of organs, delicacy of ſenſes, which are ſo proper to extend our happineſs, was willing that we ſhould make uſe of all thoſe benefits; conſequently we ſhould cultivate arts and ſciences, in order to make ſuch diſcoveries, as may procure for us every convenience of life.

But *Nature*, whoſe voice we ought always to obey, at the ſame time that ſhe preſents us with immenſe riches, the ſprings of which we draw from our own hearts; denies us the wings of the eagle, to mount into the ſkies, to traverſe the boundleſs ocean; ſhe refuſes to give us the claws of a fox, or a badger, to revel in her bowels; conſequently, if we ſupply the want of ſtrength with genius and induſtry, to furrow the ſurface of the earth, to ſtudy the heavenly bodies, to acquire ſome knowledge of the countries which are divided by the ocean: here we ſhould reſtrain our ardour, we ought not to undertake ſearching too far, to exalt ourſelves too high, and to endeavor to paſs thoſe limits which ſhe has ſet us.

Let us learn from our anceſtors and cotemporaries, to what evils thoſe have been

been expoſed, who go beyond thoſe redoubtable barriers.

FROM theſe great truths, extracted from *Nature*, and to which conſequently there is nothing to oppoſe, it muſt follow,

1ſt. THAT a child from its birth ſhould be in poſſeſſion of itſelf, nor ſhould any of its movements be obſtructed, particularly, it ſhould not be loaded with the troubleſome and deſtructive trappings of luxury. Cruel mother, would you confine, not only the weak limbs of your ſon, but reſtrain even the expanſion of his mind!

2d. THAT as ſoon as infants begin to grow, they ſhould be inured by degrees to run races, to the intemperance of the air, to painful exerciſes; that inſtead of creating

creating fictitious wants, the first of which brings on a million of others, which are all insatiable, he should be accustomed to moderate, even the easy appetites of *Nature*.

3d. That a child vegetate a long time without any obstacle, that is, till about fifteen; that they wait, at least, till the first spark of reason appears. The soul, that is too soon brought into action, wastes the body before it has taken that firmness, that is necessary to enable it to bear all the movements which this imperious governess gives it.

But as nothing is so beautiful, nothing so sweet to a young heart, as to receive with the first sensations of his being, the first line of truth, virtue, humanity; you cannot teach your son too early to know God, himself, and mankind,

kind, and their principal duties, which are few in number.

4th. That man being deſtined to be perfected, to acquire knowledge, it is neceſſary to begin by little and little, even from his firſt years, to give him ſome few preliminary ideas to employ without fatiguing him, without letting him even perceive that he is employed.

But that he may avoid thoſe exceſſes, which are more to be dreaded than death, it is neceſſary to moderate in him two paſſions, which are almoſt always united, that of acquiring knowledge, and that of expecting to find happineſs out of his own breaſt. If he has too great an inclination for learning, call him ſuddenly from it; take him to ſome walk or ſport which he loves, and tell

him afterwards, that you would not have taken him from his ſtudy, if you were not afraid that it would prevent him from ſome occupation, that would be more agreeable to him. If this means ſhould prove ineffectual, lead him, as if by chance, to explore the dark ſides of the ſcience to which he would apply himſelf, which will probably allay the violence of his purſuit. If after this he ſhould yet perſevere in his thirſt after knowledge, let the reins of his fancy looſe, he is a genius; he will enlighten his age and poſterity. If he places his happineſs on trifles; if, for example, you perceive in him an inordinate deſire for dreſs, haſten inſtantly to cure this folly, for it will ſoon be out of your power to reſtrain it. When he is dreſſed, make him a ſlave to his fine clothes, do not ſuffer him to go abroad, or to take any exerciſe under pretence that he muſt not

ſpoil

ſpoil them; at the ſame time, ſhew him another child who is more ordinarily clothed, who has freedom given him to play about, to do as he pleaſes; affect yourſelf to ſhew a preference to this child, and thus by endeavouring to render dreſs troubleſome to him, it will at length appear contemptible in his eyes, and this foible be corrected in early youth, which like all others, if ſuffered to take too deep root will not eaſily be eradicated, and perhaps may be attended with the moſt pernicious conſequences.

Such are the principles on which education is founded in this iſland, and it is from the early care which is taken of the minds of children by *Ariſtus* and *Julia*, that it ſtill continues to be the Island of Peace.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXI.

ARISTUS encourages the young people, whoſe education he has the care of, by diſcourſing with them frequently, and by relating to them paſſages ſelected from ſome favourite author, calculated to inſpire them with a love of induſtry.

" THE happieſt of men, doubtleſs is " he, (ſpeaking one day from his fa- " vourite *Vaniere)* who retired to the " country, has learned the value of " *Nature*'s gifts, who knowing how to " moderate his deſires, and contenting " himſelf with a little, has ſhut all the " avenues to his ſoul againſt thoſe glit- " tering chimeras and real vexations

" which

" which divide the lives of worldly
" men. He diſowns that vain autho-
" rity, which men never exerciſe with
" impunity over each other: he does
" not wiſh to give them laws, for he
" knows they are uſeleſs without man-
" ners, and theſe manners are only dif-
" fuſed by education and precept: he
" is intent to give his children a right
" education, that they may lead an ir-
" reproachable life. Thus diſclaiming
" that aſſumed and imperfect power
" which rank or birthright gives, he
" makes himſelf maſter of every heart
" by the charms of virtue.

" To this empire, ſo ſweet both for
" the maſter and his ſubjects, he adds
" another, which is but little leſs power-
" ful: he commands *Nature*: ſhe ſeems
" to take delight in yielding to him all
" her productions, from the humble

" violet, to the ſpreading oak; from the
" ſmalleſt worm, to the camel; all things
" are at his diſpoſal, when, and how
" he chuſes. What would he wiſh for
" more? Riches? He knows too well
" how much more precious a handful
" of fertile clay, taken off the ſmiling
" ſurface on which we inhabit, is, than
" all the gold which is entombed in the
" bowels of the earth. Is he ambitious
" after honour? What honours are ſo
" durable as thoſe which are the tribute
" of virtue. Does he deſire know-
" ledge? He knows how to govern
" his houſhold, his flocks, and to per-
" form all the operations of agriculture
" in due ſeaſon: he poſſeſſes *Wiſdom*
" herſelf, for he knows how to be
" happy.

" His felicity is too great to allow
" him to envy that of any other; and

" it is too eaſily attained for him to be-
" come an object of envy. He is not
" exalted to that dangerous height,
" from which ſo many experience dread-
" ful and humiliating falls. He does
" not behold with terror, his fate ſuſ-
" pended in the uncertain hands of For-
" tune or of Juſtice. He fears no man,
" nor does he dread that monitor in his
" own breaſt, whoſe reproaches are infi-
" nitely more ſevere, than even the ma-
" lice of an enemy. Wearineſs and re-
" morſe, which are inſeparable from
" criminal and tumultuous pleaſures,
" can never embitter his enjoyments,
" becauſe they are tranquil and pure as
" his ſoul.

" Labour and fatigue give a reliſh
" to his homely fare; while in the city,
" luxury mingles diſtaſte and inſipidity
" in the moſt extravagant repaſt that

" opulence can prepare. He lies down " on his humble bed, ſleep gently cloſes " his eyes; joy and health hang on his " lips, and animate the light pulſations " of his heart.

" O perverſity! O blindneſs of the " human heart, that might enjoy the " happineſs with which it is ſurround- " ed, yet goes far to ſeek in darkneſs " and through a thouſand perils, a fickle " ſhadow; a ſhadow that eternally eludes " thy graſp! What is there neceſſary to " happineſs, ſays the *Man of Nature*, " but health, plain and ordinary nouriſh- " ment, the power to bathe and quench " one's thirſt in a clear ſtream, and to " ſtretch voluptuouſly on the graſs at " the riſing of the ſun, or in the ſhade " during the noon-day ardour?—Let " us fly from ſumptuous palaces where " *Nature* is conſtrained, contradicted,

" loaded with chains. Thoſe rich roofs
" that reſound the melody of a thou-
" ſand inſtruments of muſic; thoſe gol-
" den ſtatues that repreſent young men
" who bear lamps to enlighten noctur-
" nal feaſts; thoſe ſoft and ſuffocating
" beds which inſipid languor has erect-
" ed; What is all this, compared to
" the real benefits which the bounteous
" hand of *Nature* freely offers us?

" Then why, fooliſh man, why doſt
" thou give up advantages which coſt
" ſo little? Why, in croſſing the
" gulph, which *Nature* has fixed to
" divide climates, between which all
" commerce is dangerous, doſt thou
" truſt thy life to the winds and waves,
" only to explore a foreign coaſt? Why,
" without any other motive than that
" of ſhining in uſeleſs trappings, to ac-
" quire conſequence in vulgar eyes, doſt

" thou ſwell the torrent of flatterers, a
" torrent as impure as it is rapid, which
" inceſſantly flow through the gates of
" the great?

CHAP.

CHAP. XXII.

"HAPPY is the laborious and
"diligent farmer, who cultivates
"his own ground from father to ſon!
"He is acquainted with its productions
"from long cuſtom, and knows the
"means of rendering it moſt profitable.
"His family diſperſes in the morning
"through the fields; the more nume-
"rous they are, the greater his riches.
"Born on this ſpot, his anceſtors had
"tilled it before him; he is naturalized
"to it, he poſſeſſes it, if I may ſo ex-
"preſs myſelf, as firmly as the deep-root-
"ed oak by which it is ſhaded."

AFTER having conducted the educa-
tion of a young labourer to the mo-

ment he becomes, in his turn, maſter of the farm, *Vaniere* ends his ſecond book by a deſcription of a rural marriage. I ſhould be happy to be able to copy this picture, without weakening it.

"ARRIVED at that happy period, "where the vivacity that glows on the "cheek of youth and innocence gives "new luſtre, new charms to beauty; "the farmer's daughter, ſharing with "her mother, the care of the houſe, "ſeizes the hoe and the rake, ſhe fears "not to ſpoil her delicate hands. She "is not ſumptuouſly cloathed; ſhe "does not adorn her head with a high "and ridiculous edifice, often of bor-"rowed hair, as unbecoming as diſ-"agreeable, notwithſtanding the deſire "to appear beautiful, which *Nature* "has implanted in all women for the

"hap-

" happineſs of mankind. She uſes no
" other art to embelliſh her charms,
" but that of ſearching the meadow to
" collect flowers; ſhe brings them to
" the fountain, the only mirror which
" ſhe conſults, to fix them in her hair.
" Simplicity gives a thouſand charms to
" theſe natural ornaments. Modeſty
" paints her lips and cheeks; but ſhe
" has leſs deſire to excel her companions
" in beauty, than emulation to exceed
" them in induſtry; by this, ſhe at
" length obtains a huſband, who makes
" her happy.

" When love firſt begins to poſſeſs
" her artleſs breaſt, when ſhe finds an
" object that becomes dear to her, and
" to whom ſhe becomes inſenſibly dear,
" they find out a thouſand means to
" expreſs their affection, to ſee and to
" ſpeak to each other. If they gather

" grapes, they meet, they know not
" how, almoſt always at the ſame vine:
" if they are reaping corn in the field,
" Love ſtill brings them to the ſame
" ſheaf. Ardent to merit the addreſſes
" of her lover, ſhe works ſo well, that
" ſhe quickly overtakes the moſt expert
" reaper: her lover beholds her with
" pleaſure. However, to prevent her
" fatiguing herſelf too much, and to
" engage her to turn her eyes towards
" him, he accuſes her of leaving half
" the corn on the ground; this re-
" proach, of which ſhe feels the mo-
" tive, is too agreeable for her not to
" turn back and gather them.

" WHILST the other reapers renew
" their ſtrength by ſleeping after dinner,
" our lovers employ that ſweet moment
" of leiſure in ſpeaking of their paſſion,
" and regulating at a diſtance, the til-

" lage

" lage of their fields, and the arrange-
" ment of their peaceful dwelling.

" When they have declared to their
" family their mutual paſſions, and
" when they are judged worthy of each
" other, they ſettle the conditions of the
" contract: as ſoon as their relations
" and friends ſpread in the village the
" news of their happineſs, each villager
" comes to congratulate them, to bring
" them preſents, and prepare them for
" the feaſt.

" At length the happy, the ſo much
" wiſh'd-for day arrives. Already the
" prieſt, clothed in a white robe, im-
" patiently awaits the bride and bride-
" groom. They proſtrate themſelves
" before the houſe, even upon the
" threſhold of the door. Their parents
" advance, hiding with one hand the

" tears of tenderneſs this ſight makes
" them ſhed, and raiſing the other to
" heaven, to implore they may renew
" all their virtues in the offspring of
" this hymen. Next advance the happy
" pair; the bridegroom having his
" head bound with ribbons of blended
" colours; the bride keeping her eyes
" modeſtly lowered, and bearing in her
" heart the lively emotions of love,
" heightened by the ſweet reſiſtance of
" modeſty. They arrive at the altar;
" there proſtrate before GOD, the father
" of all men, they implore that he would
" be graciouſly pleaſed to dwell with
" them while their ſouls are pure and
" innocent; they promiſe an eternal
" fidelity to each other, and confirm it
" by the union of their hands.

" THEY return amidſt acclamations of
" joy, mixed with the clangour of mu-
" ſic.

" ſic. The young men conduct the
" bridegroom, the young maids the
" bride: they lead them, according to
" cuſtom, under an elm, a venerable
" witneſs of ſuch feaſts; which, being
" planted in the middle of the village,
" proudly ſpreads its branches, which
" the youth ſeem to perpetuate; re-
" newing, from generation to genera-
" tion, their vows under its friendly
" ſhade. There, under this ſuperb ca-
" nopy, a virgin approaches the young
" couple, throws ſome grains of wheat
" on their heads; and, bluſhing, re-
" peats the vows in honour of the fruit-
" fulneſs of marriage: ſhe afterwards
" preſents them with cakes in a baſket."

And thus ends this ſimple and ſacred ceremony.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIII.

AT other times, *Ariſtus* would relate to his little family the events that had happened to him, when he left the Iſland of Peace with his father. From theſe I have ſelected one ſtory, on which he often dwelt. The unfortunate *Valfrais*, who himſelf related it to him, came to *Paris* to ſettle ſome affairs, which were neceſſary to his leaving it for ever. His melancholy air drew the attention, and awakened the compaſſion of the *Man of Nature*, who was not enough acquainted with the miſeries of mankind, to behold affliction without a deſire to relieve it. They became acquainted, and ſpent much time together. When they parted,

ed, he gave *Ariſtus* the little manuſcript which follows;

"IN the early days of my life, I found myſelf the happieſt of men. I believed I was indebted for my being to an honeſt independant gentleman, with whom I had always lived. I paſſed delicious days with a ſiſter, as amiable as ſhe was beautiful, and who repaid the care which I had taken to form her mind, with every united charm of wit and good humour. I had for a friend, the tendereſt, the moſt courteous of mortals.

THE firſt affliction I had ever experienced, and which happened to me at the age of eighteen, was to ſee him whom I called by the tender name of father, and who ſo well deſerved all my affection, ſeized with a dangerous illneſs;

neſs; I never quitted his bedſide, and my gratitude for the affection with which he always treated me, operated almoſt as ſtrongly in my heart, as the effect of *Nature*. He grew worſe every day, and *Louiſa* and I beheld ourſelves threatened with the greateſt misfortune that could befal us.

"*Valfrais*," ſaid he to me one night that I ſat up with him, "ſend away "this woman who attends me; oblige "her to go to reſt in the next room; I "feel a deſire to talk with you alone; "go, and do not loſe time."

Suſanna retired, and I approached the bed of my father; I took one of his hands which I bathed with tears, though I had determined not to ſhed any, for fear of alarming him. "You weep," ſaid he to me, tenderly; "Alas! alas!

"do

" do you foreſee the misfortunes of
" which I am going to inform you?"
" Misfortunes! ah my dear father," interrupted I, " we are not without hopes
" of the re-eſtabliſhment of your health:
" if this good is granted us, whoſe ſon
" can be more happy than yours?"
" Liſten to me," reſumed he, " unfortunate *Valfrais*, with attention. Providence, into whoſe boſom I am going to return, is my witneſs, that
" when I earneſtly prayed to be bleſt
" with a ſon, I wiſhed that he might be
" ſuch a one as you are now; but the
" ſovereign decrees of heaven, to which
" we muſt chearfully ſubmit, doubtleſs
" had limited the fruits of my marriage
" to the birth of *Louiſa*."—" What do
" you ſay, Sir," cried I, " looking on
" him with terror, my hands trembling
" and extended, as if I would have a-

" verted

" verted from me the frightful truth " which he declared."

" Do not agitate too greatly my laſt moments," ſaid he, " my dear *Valfrais!* make ſome efforts to attend to me this night; perhaps it is the laſt that I ſhall be able to ſpeak to you."——" I acquieſce, Sir; but ah! ſhorten a narration that is painful both to you and to me. ——In a word, O reſpectable *Montbel!* am I your ſon?——You are my friend, and always ſhall be.——And is the title which I claim, more precious, more ſacred; ſpeak Sir: are you my father?" —" Heaven has denied me that comfort."—

Dismayed, almoſt annihilated by this declaration, I remained a moment with my eyes ſhut, and as it were turned in upon myſelf. *Montbel* ſtretched out his hand,

hand, he took mine, and preſſing it, revived me. "*Valfrais*, ſaid he, how "dreadful is it for me to wound your "heart! for I perceive, and flatter my-"ſelf, you had received me as your fa-"ther." If I have imagined you ſo, virtuous *Montbel*, anſwered I, then what have I to wiſh for more, than to be indebted to you for all things? But without doubt you know who I am, and how, and by whom my education has been committed to your care. "Read," ſaid he, "this firſt letter which I received concerning you."

To M. Montbel.

"THERE was wanting, Sir, a per-"ſon as diſcreet, as reſpectable as your-"ſelf, to entruſt to the charge of a "careful nurſe, at Lagni, in Briere, a "child of three days old, whoſe parents

"have

" have presumed to make use of your " name without your knowledge, and " to say the infant is your son. It is " earnestly desired, that you will not de- " stroy the hopes which are entertained " of your benevolence, and that you " will serve as a father to young *Valfrais*, " till circumstances allow his parents to " acknowledge him. M. Montbel shall " receive every year an annuity for his " pupil; but it is expected that he will " not make any attempt to discover " those who give him this mark of their " confidence; and that he will not en- " trust any one with a secret of such " consequence."

" They were not deceived," added he: " after I had done reading the note, in the hopes which they conceived, I went to see you, to give you in charge, and to make myself known at Lagni. The death

death of my wife, and the extreme youth of my daughter, gave me all the liberty which the circumſtance required. For the greater ſafety, I changed my ſervants and my place of abode.

SINCE that time you are ſenſible how I have been attached to you, and whether my own ſon could have been dearer to my heart. But, *Valfrais*, I am dying; you cannot ſucceed to my eſtate, becauſe there is no deed that authorizes my adoption, and becauſe it will appear evident, that my wife left me only *Louiſa*: it was therefore eſſential, that I ſhould acquaint you with your ſituation, that you may not expoſe yourſelf to the diſgrace of being diſowned by my family."

AND have you diſcovered nothing further, Sir, ſaid I, ſince that time? "No," anſwered he; "I receive every year a bill

bill of exchange, ſometimes from one town, and ſometimes from another, for the annuity which they engaged to pay; it is very liberal: and I was ſo accuſtomed to look upon you as my ſon, ſo well pleaſed to be your father, that I have always bluſhed at the donation they ſent me; and I have regularly placed to your account, all that I have drawn from theſe bills. It is a fund which belongs to you, and which you will find after my deceaſe."

Ah! Sir, cried I, throwing myſelf at his feet, of all thoſe evils which I have to fear, there is none that I dread ſo much as that of loſing you; may Heaven deign to preſerve your life, and I ſhall not complain of the ignominy that awaits me.

"PERMIT me to finish my relation," said the feeble *Montbel*. "You know that by the advice of others, rather than by my inclination, you were the last year near taking the robe, in which your talents could not have failed to distinguish you: read the second anonymous letter which I received, of which you are also the subject."

To M. MONTBEL.

"WE are informed that *Valfrais* de-
"signs himself for the Robe. This pro-
"fession would counteract the designs
"of his parents, who are still obliged
"to conceal themselves. His annuity
"shall be doubled, if the military life
"is agreeable to him. It is requested
"of M. *Montbel*, whom they cannot
"thank too much for having so care-
"fully attended to the education of his
"pupil,

" pupil, to prevail on him to chuſe this " profeſſion."

" I will confeſs," ſaid he, " the rumour that war was declared in France, made my heart tremble; you were ſo dear to me, *Valfrais*, that I could not yet bring myſelf to determine to ſee you run the riſque of ſo dangerous a profeſſion. I therefore have only complied in part with the requeſt of the ſecond note, by not urging you to continue longer in the courſe of thoſe ſtudies in which you had made ſo rapid a progreſs, whilſt I concealed from you, that I had changed my opinion in this reſpect; but being now on the brink of death, I dare not leave you ignorant of what is expected from you."

His affliction increaſed as he pronounced theſe words: a ſudden faintneſs ſeized

ſeized him, which made me think it neceſſary to call in his attendants to his aſſiſtance; indeed they were almoſt as neceſſary to my own, for I was in a ſtate of ſtupefaction, from which nothing but my affection and terror for *Montbel* could have awakened me.

Our cares were happily ſucceſsful in reviving him; and this criſis, which I ſo much dreaded, was ſo ſalutary to *Montbel*, that at the dawn of day he found himſelf infinitely better. The phyſicians, whom we ſent for, were aſtoniſhed at the change that appeared in him, and left us with the moſt favourable hopes.

It is impoſſible to deſcribe the different ſenſations with which my ſoul was at this time tumultuouſly agitated.

In the midſt of thoſe afflicting ideas with which the frightful ſecret juſt imparted to me had filled me, I felt the conſolation of beholding my friend, my father, reſtored to my prayers; but at the ſame moment that I was ready to lift up my hands to heaven in gratitude for his preſervation, they inſenſibly ſmote my breaſt in anguiſh, when I reflected on the dreadful diſcovery which had been made me.

Louisa, whoſe impatience to enquire after her father could be no longer reſtrained, appeared at this moment: when I perceived her, my heart inſtantly whiſpered to me, *Valfrais, thou art no longer the brother of Louiſa.* I flew to her; *Louiſa*, ſaid I with tranſport, we have nothing more to dread; a happy criſis has reſtored to us what we hold moſt dear.

At theſe words, ſhe threw herſelf into my arms.——Dreadful ſituation, which I ſtill remember!——O virtue, how powerful is the ſentiment which thou inſpireſt! I felt ſenſations at this moment, of which thou wert the ſource, but which *Louiſa* had not time to perceive, for ſhe left me, and ran inſtantly to her father's bed-ſide, from which his attendants intreated her to retire: as repoſe was neceſſary for him, we both left him for ſome time.

"Brother," ſaid *Louiſa*, as we went out, "my dear brother, follow me to my apartment, and let us rejoice together; let us mingle our tears of gratitude to Heaven, for the preſervation of our father."

I made the want of reſt, of which I ſtood much in need, ſerve me for an excuſe to leave her; and I withdrew in-

ſtantly to my chamber, in order to collect, if poſſible, my ſcattered ſenſes enough to form ſome reflections on the ſtory I had juſt heard, and the dreadful ſituation into which the account had thrown me.

Ah! unfortunate *Valfrais!* ſaid I, throwing myſelf with anguiſh on my bed; thou haſt loſt the moſt tender of parents, and thou art ignorant whom it is that has given thee being.——Art thou the ſhameful offspring of ſome licentious paſſion, whom the law rejects? Does not the profound myſtery which covers thy birth, reſemble thoſe ſhades in which guilt ever ſeeks to wrap itſelf? Thus did I augment the horror, the ſhame, which ſurrounded me, by the moſt bitter and agonizing reflections.

Un-

UNGRATEFUL wretch! added I; the inſtant that the conviction *Louiſa* was no longer thy ſiſter, entered thy ſoul, thou hadſt the temerity to convert the friendſhip thou hadſt felt for her, into a ſofter, a more tender paſſion; and is it thus thou wouldſt repay the generous *Montbel* for the obligations thou lieſt under to him? Whoſe heart is it thou wouldſt offer to the daughter of this reſpectable man? That of a wretch whoſe birth is ſo infamous, that the very authors of his being bluſh to acknowledge him; that of a creature deſtined to wander out the remainder of his miſerable exiſtence, in perpetual ſhame and reproach. Haſten then and declare thy monſtrous preſumption; draw upon thyſelf the contempt of thoſe who are inclined to pity thee, and add at once remorſe to infamy.

The deſpair which ſucceeded theſe reflections was ſuch, that I even dared to meditate my own deſtruction; and though the conſolation of ſeeing *Montbel* again recovering, and the attention which I might yet give him, by intervals, checked theſe gloomy and wild ideas; yet, at length my heart grew agitated to ſuch a degree, that my reaſon was diſturbed.——A burning fever ſeized me ſuddenly, the ſymptoms of which were ſo dangerous, that they deſpaired of my recovery. I was ſo far from being ſenſible of my ſituation, that for eight days I did not perceive any one around me.

Louisa, even thy enchanting voice could not awaken my bewildered reaſon! A thouſand times ſhe called on her unfortunate brother; but a profound ſilence, a total inſenſibility, had poſſeſſed me.

At

At the return of my ſenſes, I perceived *Montbel* ſitting by my bed-ſide, and bathing my hand with his tears.—— Is it you, Sir? ſaid I,—— "Yes, my "dear *Valfrais*, it is I, who am endea- "vouring to bring you back to life. If "mine is ſtill dear to you, think that it "depends wholly on the re-eſtabliſh- "ment of your health."

Can you order me to live, Sir, cried I? —— "Ah! *Valfrais*," replied he, "I die if you are not reſtored to me."—— Well then, anſwered I, I will aſk again of Heaven the ſad gift of exiſtence, for your ſake; and I will promiſe to receive it, heavy as the load will be to me to bear, with the moſt lively gratitude.

The ſpirits which I exerted from this moment, produced a much better effect, than all the art of medicine could have

had on me, and I was ſoon in a ſtate to take ſome nouriſhment.

MONTBEL, who often obſerved that I ſcarcely anſwered *Louiſa*; that I even turned away when ſhe offered me any thing, and eſpecially that I had ceaſed to call her ſiſter, took the opportunity of a moment when he was left alone with me, to ſpeak to me in the following manner. "You know, *Valfrais*, that I thought "my death at hand, when I opened my- "ſelf to you. The return of my health "accuſes me every inſtant of an indiſ- "cretion, which has made you unhappy, "which has almoſt terminated your "days. In the name of that tender "friendſhip which I have for you; in "the name of that which I hoped I "had inſpired you with, endeavour to "forget all that I have told you, and "let us imagine ourſelves again in the

"ſame

" ſame ſituation that we were before my
" cruel diſeaſe. There can be nothing
" done, but to wait patiently the moment
" that will reſtore your parents to you.
" The two notes declare there are cir-
" cumſtances that muſt put them in a
" ſituation to acknowledge you. Their
" rank cannot be inconſiderable, if I may
" judge by the annuity which they have
" ſo punctually paid me. If you recol-
" lect alſo their deſire that you ſhould
" prefer the military life to that of the
" robe; if you examine the commanding
" ſtyle of the letters, you will certainly
" judge that they were written by ſome
" perſon in a ſuperior ſtation."——Alas!
interrupted I, what avails all theſe con-
ſiderations to me, if I have not the leſs
cauſe to ſuſpect the diſgrace of my pa-
rents, and my own ſhame! " It is by ſuch
reflections as theſe, that you are di-
ſtracted," anſwered he, " that you deſtroy

your own health, as well as mine; I am much miſtaken, if the frank and noble ſtrain in which they write to me, can be dictated by a baſe or criminal heart. Let us encourage this hope, my dear *Valfrais*, and be comforted; but be particularly careful, not to make any change in your conduct towards *Louiſa*, which may lead her to ſuſpect our ſecret. Your happineſs depends on your diſcretion; it is at leaſt what this myſtery ſeems to indicate, which has hitherto always been ſo ſtrictly obſerved; in a word, continue to be my ſon, and the brother of *Louiſa*."

MONTBEL required of me a ſolemn promiſe, that I would not give *Louiſa* any cauſe to complain of my diſtant behaviour, and I gave it him; but when I found myſelf alone with her, when ſhe reſumed that voice of familiarity with which ſhe had been accuſtomed to ſpeak

to me, I felt that the degree of virtue for which I had occaſion, far exceeded its power in my heart. I ſtill dared to call her by the tender name of ſiſter, that I might not fail in the promiſe I had made *Montbel*; but, under a pretence that it was neceſſary to be in the air for the recovery of my health, I determined to ſtay as little a while at home as poſſible.

I paſſed whole days at the houſe of *D'Aubigné*, that friend of whom I ſpoke at the beginning of my ſtory: his lively affection, the tenderneſs of his friendſhip, made him dear to me. Alas! this ſame affection, his exceſſive zeal, ought perhaps to have warned me not to have been prevailed on to fail in the promiſe I had made to *Montbel*.

However earneſtly I endeavoured to hide from him the uneaſineſs that agi-

tated me, he perceived it. "*Valfrais*," ſaid he, continually, "you offend our friendſhip by a guilty reſerve; you conceal from me vexations that prey on your health; in vain you deny that you are afflicted, you ſigh inceſſantly: Ah! ſuffer me to ſhare your ſorrow; am not I your friend? have I not a right to know, that I may endeavour to alleviate them?"

You are miſtaken, ſaid I; my ſickneſs has probably left a degree of langour on my ſpirits, which impairs the gaiety of my natural diſpoſition; but time will cure that evil. "It cannot cure it," ſaid he, "if you do not open your heart to your friend; you ſuffer yourſelf to be torn to pieces with ſome hidden anguiſh:" I repeat to you, you are miſtaken, ſaid I, with firmneſs. *D'Aubigné* was ſilent

for this time, and left me ſtill in poſſeſſion of the fatal ſecret.

I was obliged ſome time after this to enter into an explanation with *Louiſa*, which I had always avoided. "Do not believe," ſaid ſhe to me, "that I can be a dupe to the pretended motives of your frequent abſence. Formerly you took pleaſure in inſtructing me, in my ſociety, and now you fly from me: your heart is changed; ſpeak with candour to me; of what crime am I guilty, what can your ſiſter have done to offend you?"

THESE queſtions of the amiable *Louiſa* embarraſſed me; my ſilence added ſtill more to her uneaſineſs. "Ah! brother," cried ſhe, "you have no longer a friendſhip for *Louiſa*." What injury do you do me, my deareſt ſiſter, anſwered I; and who could refuſe you that tenderneſs

which

which you muſt ever inſpire? "You," interrupted *Louiſa*, "yes you, cruel *Valfrais!* my brother, who loved me, who is dearer to me than myſelf——It was not thus you uſed to treat me," added ſhe, taking me by the hand, and coming forward to embrace me. The effort which I made to avoid this dear, but dangerous embrace, made her burſt into tears. "Ah!" cried ſhe, "your ſiſter is become hateful to you: ſpeak, *Valfrais*, can this be the effect of the long converſation which you had with my father, and for which his attendants were ordered to retire?"

DREADING the inferences which ſhe might draw from this ſuſpicion, and my apparent coldneſs, I approached her, I took her hand. But an involuntary emotion forbad me to indulge that tranſport with which I could have preſſed

her to my heart. Alas! careſſes which were innocent from the virtuous *Louiſa*, became criminal when offered by the guilty *Valfrais*.——I broke haſtily from her, for I found how neceſſary flight was to preſerve the ſmall degree of virtue which remained in my heart.

Scarce had I quitted her, when all the dangers of my ſituation in the houſe of *Montbel* appeared to my view, and filled me with the moſt lively terror. I met *D'Aubigné* at that inſtant, who had been at *Montbel*'s to enquire for me.——My heart was too full of the ſcene which had juſt paſſed, to be able to conceal my emotions in his preſence. This officious friend redoubled his intreaties, that I would ſuffer him to ſhare my afflictions.——He conjured me, in the tendereſt terms of friendſhip, not to refuſe him my confidence. "*Valfrais*," cried he,

he, "it is Love alone that has power to excite these emotions."——At that fatal word, I threw myself into the arms of *D'Aubigné*; I bathed him with tears that fell in torrents from my eyes, and gave myself up to the bittereſt deſpair. "Friendſhip," ſaid he, "is at laſt triumphant; I receive as a mark of yours, this acknowledgment which you make of your paſſion;—but are you not beloved?"—Alas! I cannot be; death only can relieve me. "My friend, you alarm me; at your age, and with your accompliſhments, what can give riſe to thoſe deſponding reflections? What ideas preſent themſelves to me! You paſs your life at the houſe of *Montbel*.——But I dare not ſuſpect you.——Your ſiſter——*Louiſa*"——"Ah! cried I, what name have "you ſuffered to eſcape you, cruel "*D'Aubigné!*——She is no longer ſo."——"*Louiſa* not the daughter of *Montbel!*"

bel!——He is her father, but,——do not compel me to finiſh the dreadful ſentence——"He is not yours?"——Ah! my friend, do you not bluſh when I call you by that name?——*Valfrais*, ſaid he, do not inſult my tenderneſs: thoſe prejudices which cuſtom alone can authoriſe, can neither direct or ſtifle my feelings. I love you; go on, and conceal nothing from me."

How could I now be ſilent? *D'Aubigné* was too importunate, too zealous.——I complied, and at this fatal moment, related to him all that *Montbel* had informed me. I concluded with entreating him to be careful of a ſecret, which was ſo eſſential to me ſhould be kept inviolate. But, alas! men are not ſufficiently warned at an early period, of the ſolemnity of ſuch an engagement; and the levity with which ſecrecy

is

is promiſed, is productive frequently of the moſt fatal effects.

The confidence which I had repoſed in *D'Aubigné*, aſtoniſhed me when I had left him: a ſecret murmur aroſe in my heart——Anxious as he had always appeared to me for the intereſt of his friend. ——I had failed myſelf in the promiſe of ſilence which I had made to *Montbel*. ——The conviction of an error in ourſelves, makes us dread ſtill more to experience it in another. This fatal confidence, however, produced the effect which it ever has on affliction, that of alleviating it. But on beholding *Louiſa*, the ſame emotions determined me to fly ſpeedily from the dangers to which every mark of her innocent tenderneſs expoſed me.

The deſire my unknown parents had expreſſed, to have me take upon me the profeſſion of arms, appeared to me the ſureſt means to accompliſh my deſign. I communicated my intentions of purſuing this plan, as ſoon as poſſible, to *Montbel*, and he promiſed me he would find out the method that was to be taken to procure me a commiſſion. I ſpoke alſo to *D'Aubigné*, who applauded my deſign, and offered me his purſe, and his credit. After three days he came to inform me, that I had a commiſſion in the regiment of ****, and that he would go immediately with me, and preſent me to my colonel, who was under the greateſt obligations to him.

Such an important ſervice made me bluſh at the remorſe I had felt for having entruſted him with my ſecret.

I dreaded

I dreaded extremely the affliction of *Louiſa* at this event, which had not yet been mentioned to her; but the preparations which were neceſſary to put me in a condition to join the troops, employed me ſo much, that I only ſaw her at particular moments, and always in company with *Montbel.*

I had the moſt ardent deſire not to loſe an inſtant; and in four days I had made the neceſſary preparations. I do not know which aſtoniſhed me moſt, at my departure, the reſerved tone with which *Louiſa* bade me farewel, or the ardor with which *D'Aubigné* ſaid, with tears in his eyes, and in a low voice, *Adieu! my dear Valfrais, do not return till you are covered with glory, and be aſſured Love ſhall reward you.*

I re-

I repeated thoſe words frequently, ——*Love ſhall reward you.*—— Whoſe love?——It cannot be that of *Louiſa*. ——Why did ſhe wear that air of coldneſs? Ah! doubtleſs the choice I have made of this profeſſion diſpleaſes her. ——I was ſo little with her from the time my departure was fixed; the total change in my manner to her ſince my illneſs. —— My apparent indifference, has at length excited the reality of that ſenſation in her heart.

Intirely occupied with theſe reflections, I arrived at length at the end of my journey, and entered upon my new ſtate, for which I had always a ſtrong prepoſſeſſion, and which I hoped would contribute to calm the agitation of my ſoul.

I ap-

I applauded myſelf in not having ſo far forgot the gratitude which I owed *Montbel*, as to have dared to utter thoſe ſentiments with which the too lovely *Louiſa* had inſpired an unfortunate man, ſo unworthy of her, and I thought only of diſtinguiſhing myſelf in my profeſſion. The war in which we were then engaged, could not fail to give me ſome opportunity.

The pure love of glory alone, ought to have excited this noble ardour in me; but it muſt be confeſſed, there was added to this ſentiment, a contempt for life which inclined me to ſolicit the moſt dangerous poſts, and even to ruſh impetuouſly forward into the moſt evident dangers.

I frequently wrote to *Montbel*, and to *D'Aubigné*, who were informed by others of the impreſſions which I began to

to make in the regiment, and they loaded me with praiſes.

A circumſtance in my ſecond campaign drew upon me ſtill more flattering diſtinctions. At the head of an advanced guard, which were poſted to defend one of the avenues to the camp, I had the good fortune to diſcover, on a very dark night, by patroling from ſide to ſide, a body of troops in motion, whoſe intention was to ſurpriſe me. I immediately joined my party, divided, and extended them in two wings, and gave orders for them to lie flat on their faces, on each ſide the road, which the enemy muſt neceſſarily paſs. They advanced, and as ſoon as I perceived they had paſſed me, I cloſed my men in the rear, and preſſed on them, and ſtruck them with ſuch a panic, that not a ſingle man eſcaped our circle; the whole corps threw down their arms,

arms, and without quitting my poſt I guarded my priſoners till I was relieved.

This little manœuvre was more eſteemed than it deſerved. I had innumerable compliments paid me by the general, and my ſuperior officers, which did not fail to excite envy in the breaſts of thoſe, who perhaps juſtly felt that I was more indebted to fortune than to merit for this ſucceſs: amongſt theſe was a young officer related to the general, who had lately joined the regiment. He ſoon diſcovered his diſcontent in terms which plunged me, at this moment of apparent happineſs, into that abyſs of miſery, under which I ſhall for ever languiſh. I was informed a few days after, that he had ſaid publicly, "That *chance* generally befriended thoſe over whoſe birth ſhe had preſided;" and that when he was

deſired

desired to explain these words, he left his hearers to form the most unfavourable conjectures from them.

I did not hesitate calling upon him, in order to oblige him to clear up what he had said. He acknowledged, and with a tone of contempt and satisfaction, that he had said these words, and that if I was desirous to examine further into their meaning, he could not hide from me, that the illegitimacy of my birth was the subject of scandal, when he had left Paris.

THUNDER-STRUCK with his words, I clapped my hand on my sword, in an agony of despair: the young officer put himself on his guard, and I laid him dead at my feet in a moment. He was nephew to the commander in chief. All my brother officers, being informed of

the fact, adviſed me to take flight, and I gained the enemy's country, finding I was a long time cloſely purſued.

The few friends I had made, who were intereſted in my ſafety, deſired me to eſcape inſtantly, if I valued my life. ——It was with difficulty that I eſcaped my purſuers to a neutral town, from whence I wrote to *Montbel* an account of this unhappy event.——His anſwer informed me of yet more unfortunate ones. But his own words will beſt relate my afflictions.

Montbel's Letter.

"AH! unhappy, indiſcreet, *Val-*
"*frais*! What have you done?——
"Notwithſtanding the promiſe you made
"to me of ſecrecy, before you joined
"the

" the army, your imprudence confeſſed
" every thing to the officious *D'Aubigné*.
" ——Tremble for the conſequence of
" his, and your indiſcretion. The firſt
" uſe which he made of your ſecret, was
" to communicate it to my daughter;
" ſhe knew it two days before your de-
" parture. From that moment, ſhe and
" your cruel friend combined together,
" to attempt the diſcovery of your birth;
" they have ſucceeded but too well in
" their endeavors. *D'Aubigné*, after hav-
" ing induced *Louiſa* to rob me of thoſe
" letters which I gave you to peruſe,
" travelled ſecretly to the towns from
" whence I received the remittances
" annually. By a diligent enquiry, by
" bribes, and that forward zeal which
" always inflames his heart in the in-
" tereſt of others, without foreſeeing
" the conſequences, he unfortunately
" arrived at the point he wiſhed

" for, and encouraged by the news of
" ſome ſucceſſes you have had, he has
" boldly appeared before the Count,
" *****, to whom he had the courage
" to ſay, that it was time he ſhould ac-
" knowledge a ſon, who had crowned
" him with glory. The Count, aſto-
" niſhed at this attack, endeavoured to
" deny it, and *D'Aubigné* ſhewed him
" the letters which confirmed it under
" his own hand. When the Count found
" that this fatal ſecret was diſcovered, he
" threw himſelf at the feet of *D'Aubigné*,
" and implored his ſilence, for reaſons
" of the greateſt importance. But alas!
" this did not ſtop the indiſcreet zeal of
" your friend. He ran to the duke of
" ******, father of the Count, and diſ-
" covered to him the ſecret marriage of
" his ſon, with the daughter of *******,
" for whom he has long had the moſt
" irreconcileable hatred. A circum-

" ſtance, which, it muſt be confeſſed,
" *D'Aubigné* was ignorant of. He men-
" tioned your name, he ſpoke of the
" hopes which the whole army conceiv-
" ed of you; for he believed the Duke's
" vanity would have excited him to
" acknowledge you as his grandſon.
" But, on the contrary, he liſtened to
" him with indifference, and thanked
" him with the politeneſs of a courtier,
" for the intelligence he had given him.

" O *Valfrais*, what dreadful ſcenes
" muſt I open to your view! The Duke
" of * * * * * *, in whoſe heart revenge
" is the moſt prevalent paſſion, obtain-
" ed an order to carry off the Counteſs
" of * * * * *, your mother. This or-
" der could not be executed till the
" Count was made acquainted with it;
" he flew to her aſſiſtance, and attacked
" thoſe who attempted to ſeize her, of

" whom he wounded ſeveral; but how
" ſhall I relate it? Your unhappy mo-
" ther, wounded herſelf in the confuſion,
" ſaw her huſband fall at her feet, ba-
" thed in that blood which he had ſpilt
" for her ſake.——*Valfrais*—the fatal
" truth can be hid from you no lon-
" ger.—You have no other father now
" than myſelf.

" Theſe horrors, which are now be-
" come public, were not made known
" to me for ſeveral days, as I was in the
" country; as ſoon as I was informed
" of them, I went to the houſe of
" *D'Aubigné*: he was fled, and his do-
" meſtics were ignorant what was become
" of him. I returned home: the grief
" which I ſaw expreſſed in *Louiſa*'s coun-
" tenance aſtoniſhed me; I interrogated
" her; ſhe fell at my feet, and informed
" me of what had paſſed between her

and

" and your friend. Since this confeſ-
" ſion, grief has confined her, and ſhe
" no longer appears before me.

" ADIEU, *Valfrais*; I tremble for
" my daughter. What evils have you
" brought on yourſelf, on the unhappy
" *Montbel!*

" I do not talk to you of your ad-
" venture in the army; the luſtre of it
" vaniſhes before the facts which I have
" related."

MISERY ſo complicated, ſo ſevere as mine, cannot be deſcribed.—My cries, my fury, were ſcarce to be reſtrained.—Could I have entered *France* with any degree of ſafety, I ſhould have flown to *Montbel*; I ſhould have pierced the heart of the officious friend who had thus cruelly betrayed me; I ſhould have

wept with the wretched *Louiſa*; but even this comfort was denied me.—I ſoon received another letter from *Montbel*, as diſtreſſing as the firſt. He informed me that the unhappy Counteſs of * * * * * died two days after the event he had related, more a martyr to her grief, than to the wounds which ſhe had received; that *D'Aubigné* had thrown himſelf into one of thoſe ſacred and dreadful aſylums, where even the moſt ſevere penitence can never expiate the fatal conſequence of his barbarous and indiſcreet zeal.—The tender *Louiſa!*—alas! her reaſon has left her.—A gloomy melancholy poſſeſſes her, and renders her inſenſible even to her Father's tenderneſs.

I could reſt no longer in the diſtracted ſtate of mind into which theſe additional horrors threw me. I riſqued every thing, and departed inſtantly for

France.

France.—I arrived in the gloom of evening at the houſe of *Montbel*, who trembled to ſee me. *Louiſa* knew me no longer: however, ſhe received from my hands ſome medicines which ſhe had hitherto refuſed, but which have had no effect to reſtore her to her memory, or her ſenſes.——She has now been ten years in this unhappy ſtate, in a retreat which hides us under borrowed names, from a world to which we have bid adieu! for ever. Her father, and I, are continually watching for ſome happy moment when ſhe may recollect us. A calm interval ſometimes flatters us with its approach, but it is ever ſucceeded by torrents of tears, by the moſt bitter agitations, in which ſhe repeats my name and that of *D'Aubigné*, alternately, and from which ſhe is with difficulty recovered. All that remains to me on earth is the ſteady friendſhip of *Montbel*, of

whom death threatens daily to deprive me.

O thou, who art only the ſhadow of my much-loved *Louiſa!* thou ſhalt ever continue dear to me.—Think not that I will ever forſake thee. The remembrance of thy former graces, thy beauty, the virtues of thy mind, ſhall ſecure to thee an inviolable conſtancy.—They are written on my heart, and they ſhall dwell there FOR EVER!

IN one of the ſad moments of my leiſure, I haſtily threw together theſe imperfect memoirs: may they prove an example of terror to the indiſcreet, the officious!"

THIS affecting tale drew tears from the innocent family. They wept for the unfortunate *Valfrais*, for the tender

Louiſa:

Louisa: and *Aristus* and *Julia* endeavoured to impress on the minds of their pupils, the fatal consequences of indiscretion.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIV.

HAVING attempted to give an idea of the manner in which *Ariſtus* and *Julia* paſs their days on the ISLAND OF PEACE; it is almoſt time to conclude a work, which can contain nothing further to intereſt, or affect the reader. *Ariſtus*, and his *Julia*, are arrived at that period of life, where they have little left to expect, but that peace and tranquility will conduct them gently to a ſtill more diſtant one; an event they look forward to, with a hope founded on a baſis, which is as permanent as the mercy of the Creator; the purity and innocence of their lives, which have been regulated, as far as human infirmity could admit, by the invariable LAWS OF NATURE.

IN

In the converſations which he holds with his family, he is ever dwelling with delight, on that happy period which gave *Julia* to his aſtoniſhed ſight, of his being united to her, and taſting the ſweets of conjugal and paternal love. He particularly recollects a ſolitary walk which he took one morning after his return from Europe, and with which we will take leave of the *Man of Nature*.

"I went one morning," ſays he, "at "ſun riſe, to the moſt agreeable part "of my foreſt, to that ſpot where *Julia*, "and *Love*, had ſpread a ſnare for me, "into which I had the happineſs to fall. "I was indulging this pleaſing remem- "brance, bleſſing God, and the lovely "works of *Nature*.

"After having enjoyed my con- "templation with extacy, Ah! cried I,

"what

" what are the guilty and vain men do-
" ing, who languiſhing in the boſom of
" luxury, do not come with me to wor-
" ſhip God at the revival of Nature!
" Man, is on earth the maſter-piece of
" the creation; he is ſovereign of all
" the creatures that breathe around him;
" and yet, he is not the firſt being that
" pays homage to the Author of the
" univerſe! What monſtrous ingrati-
" tude! And how ſeverely is he puniſhed
" by the loſs of the pleaſure he would
" have experienced, in acquitting himſelf
" of ſo tender a duty!

" O! thou, whom vain motives de-
" tain in cities, quit for ever thoſe glit-
" tering and melancholy priſons, where
" thou haſt ſo long ſhut thyſelf up; for-
" ſake thoſe projects which ambition
" has taught thee to conceive: they
" are chains which bind thee to her

" cha-

" chariot, under which thou wilt be
" cruſhed. Return to *Nature*; regard
" the ſimplicity, the innocence which
" thou haſt loſt: theſe only can conſti-
" tute ſupreme happineſs.

" When I had ended this apoſtrophe,
" I folded my arms, and beheld with
" new delight, all that was around
" me: I drew a book out of my pocket,
" a book which I ſo highly eſteem, the
" Fables of De La Fontaine! I
" opened it at the fable of *The King*
" *and the Shepherd*. This ſhepherd, whom
" his fellow-citizens had rendered unfor-
" tunate, whom courtiers had perſecut-
" ed becauſe ſincere and honeſt, thus
" happily ends his ſtory! Sweet treaſures,
" ſaid he, (ſpeaking to his hat, his ſcrip,
" and his crook)

" Sweet

" Sweet treaſures, ſaid he, dear
" pledges, that have never drawn
" upon you envy and falſhood,
" I take ye again; let us go forth
" from theſe rich palaces,
" As one awaking out of a dream.

" Read this then, cried I, read this, vile
" worſhippers of fortune, and come and
" retire here.——At that moment, my
" attention was drawn off by a gentle
" murmur, with which I imagined I was
" acquainted, though it was ſcarce to
" be heard; I was not miſtaken; it was
" the voice of the humming-bird, which
" ſettled on a little flower, and appeared
" quite in raptures that it was ſtrong
" enough to make it bend a little. I
" conſidered it attentively; it thruſt its
" beak into the cup of a flower, to ſeek
" for ſome dew, for dew is its ambroſia.
" It was diſappointed, and I ſaw its lit-
" tle

" tle boſom heave with rage; it tore
" the flower with its bill, and ſcattered
" its leaves.——I applied to it this
" beautiful verſe of Virgil:

" Can ſo much gall enter into celeſtial
" ſouls!

" But its anger was as ſhort as it was
" violent. A dew-drop which it found
" on another flower, ſoon rendered it
" compoſed.

" I was at this moment given up to
" *Nature* as much as the firſt day that I
" arrived in my iſland. The plaintive
" cry of a Turtle-Dove rouſed me; I
" raiſed my head, and ſaid to it, with
" as much compaſſion as innocence,
" Ceaſe to weep, little Dove, ceaſe to
" weep; I know by your plaintive mur-

" mur,

" mur, that you have loſt your mate;
" your notes are very tender, they in-
" form me you are the female.

" The complaints of this unhappy
" bird, threw me into a melancholy re-
" flection, upon the neceſſity of being
" ſoon, or late, ſeparated from what we
" love—The huſband of this Turtle-
" Dove is dead without her. Ah!
" why not die together, ſince they
" were united by love? Why muſt one
" of two tender lovers periſh, either by
" the hand of the fowler, or by a bird of
" prey, and the other be condemned to
" lament its loſs? It is doubtleſs becauſe
" the courſe of nature muſt be general
" and univerſal; becauſe the principles
" of deſtruction and re-production muſt
" circulate in the immenſe circle of life
" and being; becauſe, according to the
" great-

" great law, the ſimple, ſacred, and " invariable law of *Nature*, the whole of " the univerſe is perfect; but the ſame " perfection cannot exiſt in all the mi- " nute parts which compoſe it.—Sunk in " theſe reflections, I ſaid with a ſigh, " But man, this being ſo intelligent, ſo " ſublime, ſince he is included in the " general law of deſtruction, ſhould he " not have ſome means to ſurvive his " preſent periſhable being?——Yes, " doubtleſs! and GOD, who has im- " planted in him a longing after im- " mortality, has likewiſe determined " that he ſhould enjoy it.

" THERE ended my meditation; I did " not obſerve till that moment, that the " fables of DE LA FONTAINE were at " my feet; I took them up, returned " to my wife and children, and related

"to them the particulars of my walk,
"which I committed to writing the
"same day, that I might not forget
"them."

BRITISH MUSEUM 1904 71

THE END.